Chinese farmer says he entered Saipan as tourist. PAGE 2
Early voting for Northern Islands starts. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 193

www.saipantribune.com | MONDAY OCTOBER 1, 2018 | www.facebook.com/saipantribune

75¢

EFFECTIVE YESTERDAY

$7.25 per hour

» CNMI minimum wage reaches federal level

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI minimum wage is now at $7.25 per hour starting yesterday, Sept. 30, 2018. This is a $.20-cent increase over the CNMI's last minimum wage of $7.05 an hour.

That makes the CNMI minimum wage the same as that of 14 other states in the U.S. mainland that includes Texas, Virginia, Utah, Pennsylvania, and North Dakota.

The federally mandated increase that brought the Commonwealth to the federal level started back in 2007, when the CNMI minimum wage was at $3.05 an hour.

The Government Accountability Office has helped U.S. Congress guide the wage increases by reporting on the economic impacts every several years.

In Congress, there is a move to keep increasing the minimum wage to $12 per

See $7.25 on Page 4

U.S. Navy Sailors from Underwater Construction Team 2 assist local authorities in shuttling the passengers and crew of Air Niugini flight PX56 to shore following the plane crashing into the sea on its approach to Chuuk International Airport in the Federated States of Micronesia.

U.S. NAVY/LT. ZACH NIEZGODSKI

Airline now says 1 missing after Pacific lagoon plane crash

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—The airline operating a flight that crashed into a Pacific lagoon in Micronesia on Friday now says one man is missing, after earlier saying all 47 passengers and crew had safely evacuated the sinking plane.

Air Niugini said in a statement that as of Saturday afternoon, it was unable to account for a male passenger. The airline said it was working with local authorities, hospitals and investigators to try to find the man.

The airline did not immediately respond to requests for more details about the passenger, such as his age or nationality.

The airline said in another

See AIRLINE on Page 4

Additional typhoon aid

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI will be receiving additional federal assistance following President Donald J. Trump's approval of the local government's request to declare the Commonwealth a major disaster area.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres announced Sunday that Trump approved his second letter to the White House dated Sept. 20 that asked Trump for a major disaster declaration for the CNMI after the devastation of Typhoon Mangkhut.

Under the White House declaration, the CNMI would receive accelerated federal assistance for disaster relief, technical assistance, and public health and safety.

This also means that Individual Assistance (for individuals and households) and Pub-

See TYPHOON on Page 4

Slew of news hounds IPI

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Casino Commission has approved four new junket gaming operators that can now deal directly with Imperial Pacific International (CNM) LLC, a move that could partially solve their issues on uncollectable gambling debts.

The profit of IPI Holdings Limited, the Hong Kong-based parent company of IPI (CNMI), plunged by almost 50 percent largely due to uncollected gambling debts from VIPs and other high-rollers that played at the Saipan casino.

Hongyi Ma's Stellar Paradise CNMI LLC, Hong Zhang's Bula Mula LLC, Jiming Dong's High Tides (CNMI) LLC, and Ni "Lily"

See SLEW on Page 4

INSIDE

LOCAL
The Marianas Visitors Authority joined the JATA Tourism EXPO 2018 in Japan.

PAGE 14

NATION
Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court has become uncertain.

PAGE 16

ASIA
Rescuers in Indonesia were scrambling Sunday to reach trapped victims.

PAGE 17

GOT A NEWS TIP? TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com

SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

Chinese farmer says he entered Saipan as tourist with only $200 in his pocket

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A farmer ended up as a freelance illegal taxi driver in the CNMI after he was allegedly recruited in China and entered the CNMI last year as a tourist.

Jun Yang, 34, said he only had $200 cash when he landed on Saipan.

Yang told investigators of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement-Homeland Security Investigations that he paid a person named Brother Qiang in China 35,000 RMB or $5,000 on a promise of a job on Saipan.

He said Qiang traveled with him to Saipan but never showed up in his hotel room once they arrived on the island on May 4, 2017.

Yang allegedly gave the statement after HSI agents arrested him last Wednesday on charges of lying to a government agency and improper entry into the U.S.

Yang was taken before U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona Friday afternoon for an appearance hearing. Colin Thompson appeared as his court-appointed counsel. Assistant U.S. attorney Garth Backe sought to have Yang detained pending trial.

Manglona set the detention hearing for Oct. 3 at 9am and the preliminary hearing for Oct. 10 at 9am.

After the hearing, Yang was remanded to the U.S Marshal.

In his affidavit in support of a criminal complaint, HSI special agent Michael D. Lansangan disclosed that HSI personnel assisted a U.S. Federal Protective Service inspector during a routine traffic stop outside the Marina Heights II Building in Puerto Rico last Wednesday.

Lansangan said the HSI agents encountered Yang, who admitted to entering the CNMI as a tourist with the intention of working on Saipan.

While the FPS inspector was conducting his traffic stop, Lansangan did a database check to determine Yang's immigration status. Results indicated that Yang entered the CNMI on a CNMI-only conditional parole on May 4, 2017, and was authorized to remain only until May 13, 2017.

During their interview at HSI office, Yang allegedly stated that he used to work as a farmer in Harbin, Heilongjian Province, China for 10 years before coming to Saipan.

A few weeks before he traveled to Saipan, Yang met Qiang, who told him about working on Saipan.

Qiang allegedly told Yang that jobs are plentiful on Saipan and that he could easily get one that pays between 10,000 and 20,000 RMB per month.

Yang said Qiang also stated he could obtain legal status for him to work on Saipan when he arrives.

Yang said he paid Qiang in China a total of 35,000 RMB for assistance in finding a job on Saipan and obtaining a work permit.

Qiang arranged Yang's ticket and hotel stay on Saipan. He also helped Yang apply for a Chinese passport.

Yang said he and Qiang traveled to Saipan together on the same flight.

Yang acknowledged that he had a round-trip ticket to Saipan for about four days, and a hotel reservation in Garapan for three nights.

Yang stated that Qiang instructed him not to say too much to immigration officers on Saipan.

He said Qiang told him to only tell the immigration officers that his purpose for visiting Saipan was tourism. Yang stated that after exiting the airport, Qiang directed him to one of tour buses that would take him to his hotel. Qiang did not take the bus himself but told Yang he would meet him at the hotel.

Yang stated that he waited at the hotel for three days, but Qiang never showed up.

NMSA LOTTERY RESULTS

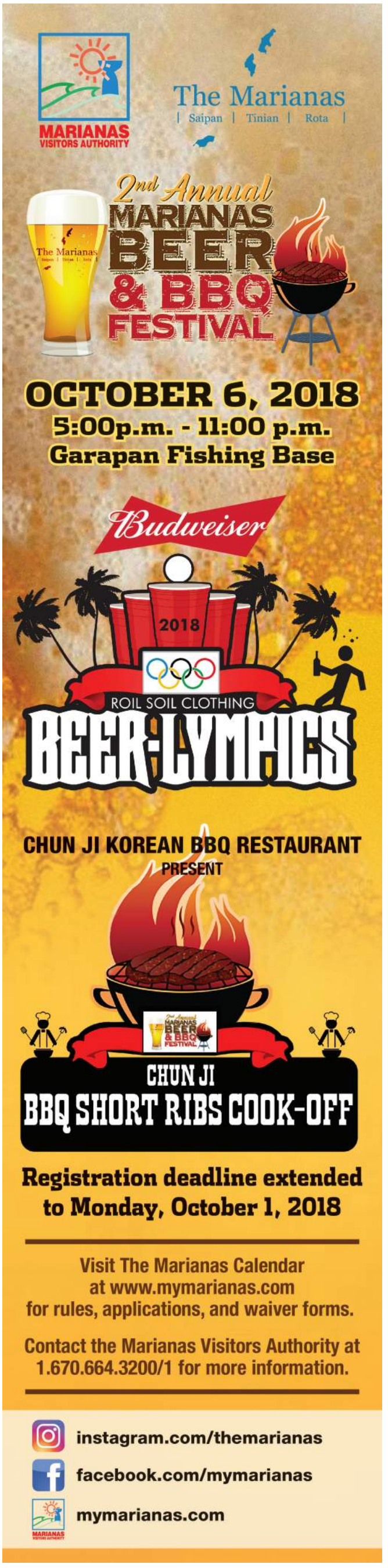
Over $89,000 in prizes won in the CNMI.

DRAW NUMBER 3881
PACIFIC GOLD
DRAW DATE 09/29/2018
WINNING NUMBERS
10 16 9 25 13 2
$2 MILLION
Next draw JACKPOT

Visit our NEW website:
www.nmsalottery.com
Now available on Android and IOS devices.

DRAW NUMBER 1167
MEGADRAW Jackpots!
DRAW DATE 09/27/2018
WINNING NUMBERS
22 5 10 30 19 21 15
MEGA # 3
$4 MILLION
Next draw JACKPOT

Get your tickets NOW!



Early voting for Northern Islands starts

The early voting for the Northern Islands for the Nov. 6 general election commenced at the Commonwealth Election Commission office on Tekken St. in Susupe last Saturday.

CEC administrative officer Kayla Igitol said the early voting for Northern Islands registered voters extends through the last day before the election at 4pm.

Igitol said the polling place for early voting remains open during the hours of 8:30am and 4pm on weekdays, weekends, Saturday, Sunday, and holidays.

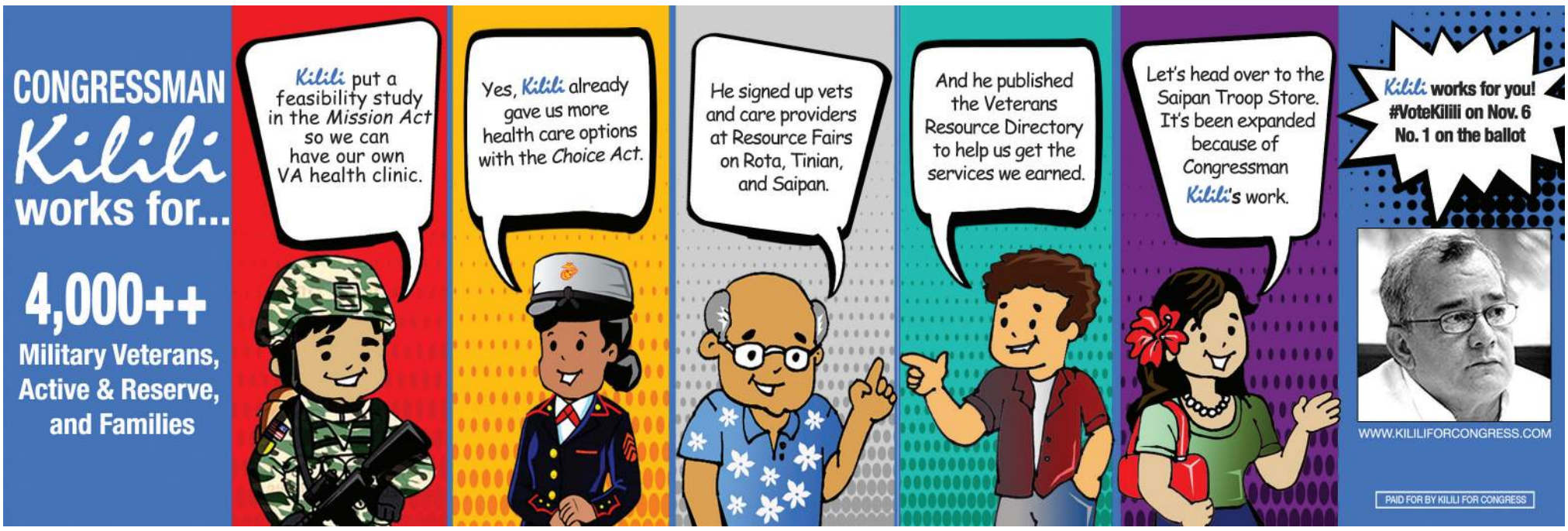
Igitol said anyone requiring other information may call their office at 235-8683 or by sending an electronic mail to administrative@votecnmi.gov.mp.

There are 177 registered voters for the Northern Islands. CEC is reportedly preparing to spend $26,000 to $27,000 to charter a boat to deliver ballots for early voting for those currently staying on Pagan, Alamagan, and Agrihan.

Based on the CEC's last report, there are 14 Northern Islands' voters who are currently on those three islands.

The seven-day early voting for Saipan, Tinian, and Rota will commence Oct. 30. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

need car insurance?
third party liability
damage to your auto
medical payment
higher limits
typhoon
uninsured motorist
*Subject to terms and conditions
www.pacificains.com
call us at (670) 234-6267
pacifica Insurance Underwriters, Inc.


CONGRESSMAN
Kilili
works for...
4,000++
Military Veterans, Active & Reserve, and Families
Kilili put a feasibility study in the Mission Act so we can have our own VA health clinic.
Yes, Kilili already gave us more health care options with the Choice Act.
He signed up vets and care providers at Resource Fairs on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan.
And he published the Veterans Resource Directory to help us get the services we earned.
Let's head over to the Saipan Troop Store. It's been expanded because of Congressman Kilili's work.
Kilili works for you!
#VoteKilili on Nov. 6
No. 1 on the ballot
WWW.KILILIFORCONGRESS.COM
PAID FOR BY KILILI FOR CONGRESS

October is...
BREAST CANCER
Awareness Month
You Can Make a Difference!
Throughout the entire month of October,
enjoy a delicious Lunch Buffet at Costa Terrace Restaurant
and a portion of all sales will be donated to the Commonwealth
Cancer Association in support of the fight against cancer.
Join us in the fight against Breast Cancer!
Monday-Saturday | 1100-1400
ARC's Costa Terrace Restaurant
$19.00 Adults | $9.00 Children (Ages 5-10)
(Local Resident Rates)
Call us at (670) 322-1234 for reservations & details
AQUA RESORT CLUB Saipan
Commonwealth Cancer Association
Costa Terrace Restaurant

Guerrero walks out of BOE meeting

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former Board of Education chair Herman Guerrero stormed out of a BOE meeting Friday morning on Capitol Hill after a vote to implement new policies on the sharing of sick leaves failed to garner the entire board's support.

Board members all voted against creating a "sick leave bank" to allow for the sharing of sick leaves for Public School System employees.

The BOE meeting, which member Janice Tenorio chairs for the meantime since chair Marylou Ada is on leave, was put on recess until some time next week. Tenorio notes that she is looking at Oct. 3 to reconvene the BOE meeting since Guerrero's walkout left the board with one less the minimum of four members to establish a quorum.

BOE member Florine Hofschneider, representing Tinian, together with Rota representative Herman Atalig and Tenorio, voted against the leave bank.

In an interview, Tenorio noted that the body was discussing the sick leave bank prior to Guerrero storming off.

"…We needed further discussion on it. We could not make the decision right then and there because we needed to further discuss it. After that, he just [stood] up and left," Tenorio said, referring to Guerrero.

"As soon as board member Guerrero walked out of the meeting, we could no longer continue," she said. "He did not state his reason as to why he walked out but it was obvious—he did not agree with [the vote]."

Guerrero declined to comment on the meeting when *Saipan Tribune* reached out to him over the weekend.

Hofschneider noted Friday that the discussion on the sick leave bank "didn't really take off" and that the board entertained a motion on the sick leave bank. She further noted that she voted against having the policy implemented just yet as she wishes to know how it would affect PSS as a whole.

Hofschneider had several unanswered questions—"How much is this going to cost us? What does it mean for the organization? How many people are in the same boat?"—that prompted her to vote against the policy "as presented."

"At this point in time, we voted no as presented… We need the questions answered," she said.

AIRLINE

From Page 1

statement later Saturday that U.S. divers had completed an inspection inside the aircraft and confirmed that all of the passengers had safely evacuated.

"This has been confirmed by other passengers that the unaccounted person had safely evacuated the aircraft and he was seen in one of the local dinghies that were assisting with transporting the passengers and crew to the shore," the statement said. "Local authorities and the airline are continuing to investigate the location of the unaccounted passenger."

Local boats helped rescue the other passengers and crew after the plane hit the water while trying to land at the Chuuk Island airport.

Officials said Friday that seven people had been taken to a hospital. The airline said six passengers remained at the hospital Saturday, and all of them were in stable condition.

What caused the crash and the exact sequence of events remains unclear. The airline and the U.S. Navy both said the plane landed in the lagoon short of the runway. Some witnesses thought the plane overshot the runway.

Passenger Bill Jaynes said the plane came in very low.

"I thought we landed hard," he said. "Until I looked over and saw a hole in the side of the plane and water was coming in. And I thought, well, this is not the way it's supposed to happen."

Jaynes said he and others managed to wade through waist-deep water to the emergency exits on the sinking plane. He said the flight attendants were panicking and yelling, and that he suffered a minor head injury.

"I was really impressed with the locals who immediately started coming out in boats," Jaynes said in an interview with a missionary in Chuuk, Matthew Colson, that was posted online and shared with The Associated Press. "One would think that they might be afraid to approach a plane that's just crashed."

The U.S. Navy said sailors working nearby on improving a wharf also helped in the rescue by using an inflatable boat to shuttle people ashore before the plane sank in about 30 meters (100 feet) of water.

The striking images of people being rescued from the half-submerged plane were reminiscent of the 2009 crash landing in New York City known as the "Miracle on the Hudson."

"It's really fortunate that we didn't have any fatalities," said Glenn Harris, a government aviation security inspector for the Federated States of Micronesia.

Harris said the plane left from the Micronesian island of Pohnpei about 700 kilometers (435 miles) to the east before ending up in the water at about 10 a.m.

He said he has yet to see a passenger manifest, but typical passengers would include business people from Micronesia, Papua New Guinea and Australia, as well as some tourists. Chuuk is known for its world-class diving, with dozens of WWII shipwrecks visible in the clear waters.

Harris said he doesn't know what caused the crash landing or whether the pilots had alerted air traffic control of any problems. He said an investigative team would be on the ground in Chuuk by Saturday to figure out what went wrong.

The airline said in a statement that the 35 passengers and 12 crew members aboard the Boeing 737 were all able to safely evacuate. It said the weather was poor at the time, with heavy rain and reduced visibility.

The airline said it was making all efforts to ensure the ongoing safety of the passengers and to meet their immediate needs. It said it was in touch with embassies, passenger representatives, stakeholders and families of the crew.

Air Niugini is the national airline of Papua New Guinea and has operated since 1973. The airline identified the flight as PX 073 with the registration number P2-PXE. Flight histories show that aircraft has made recent flights to Manila, Sydney and Singapore.

Air Niugini's network is concentrated on domestic routes linking the capital, Port Moresby, with isolated points across the Papua New Guinea archipelago, but it flies as far as Tokyo and Hong Kong.

The fleet includes Boeing 767 and 737 jets for international routes, according to the airline, as well as Fokker F-100 aircraft, Q400 and Dash 8 aircraft for challenging local terrain.

Data from the Aviation Safety Network indicates 111 people have died in crashes of PNG-registered airlines in the past two decades but none involved Air Niugini.

Micronesia, located north of Australia and east of the Philippines, is home to just over 100,000 people. It has close ties with the U.S. under an agreement known as a compact of free association.

The crash landing comes less than two months before Papua New Guinea hosts the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, expected to draw world leaders beginning on Nov. 17.

SLEW

From Page 1

Ren's Hengqin Guiji LLC are the four new junket operators who were part of the 17 applicants that the CCC had been screening.

They join Big Bang Entertainment of South Korea, whose clients are mostly high-rollers from South Korea and Japan, who has been previously approved as a junket operator by the CNMI Casino Commission.

The five junket operators are governed by federal regulations—anti-money laundering rules, anti-terrorism financing programs, and others—since the CNMI is a U.S. territory. CNMI tax laws and U.S. visa requirements must also be followed.

The CNMI Lottery Commission has also signed an amendment request by IPI (CNMI) that allowed them to operate a less than four/five star hotel property when they take over the Mariana Resort & Spa property in Marpi.

The deal, however, also needs the blessing of the Department of Public Lands since the Marpi land occupied by Mariana Resort & Spa is now government property as their lease extension already expired yesterday.

News also broke out last Friday that Guam-based contractor Pacific Rim will no longer continue working on the casino construction project after IPI (CNMI) terminated its contract with Pacific Rim effective yesterday.

Pacific Rim senior project manager Richard Suryn, in a note posted by Rep. Ed Propst (Ind-Saipan) on social media, gave out a notice to all of their employees working on the IPI construction site, saying that IPI had ended their contract.

"Accordingly, it is with regret that we must give you this notice of layoff. Your employment status will change to layoff effective Oct. 25 unless you are notified of another change of employment status before Oct. 25," said Suryn.

Another issue that broke out over the weekend is that Bank of Saipan started charging IPI casino employees when cashing their paychecks, starting with last Friday's payroll.

Some employees described it as unfair since BoS issued the checks in the first place.

They added that they are only being paid minimum wage rate and now will have to pay an extra charge for cashing their checks even if it is issued by the same bank.

TYPHOON

From Page 1

lic Assistance (for emergency work and repair or replacement of disaster-damaged facilities) will be provided for Rota, Saipan, and Tinian.

Hazard mitigation will also be provided for those affected by Typhoon Mangkhut on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian. The program will be provided to prevent or reduce long-term risk to life and property from natural disasters.

Torres said all three islands, particularly Rota, suffered major or minor damage in public facilities, homes, and other properties based on the damage assessment report done by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter.

"The joint preliminary damage assessment for public facilities estimates the extent of the damage will exceed $3.3 million on Rota, Saipan, and Tinian. Most importantly, after conducting a damage assessment with FEMA and the Red Cross, we saw that many homes and property were damaged or affected on all three islands, particularly Rota. Our IA and PA requests were approved to address these critical needs."

The Legislature, through House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), also allocated $1 million from a $20.8 million appropriations bill (House Bill 20-187 HD2) for Rota's recovery efforts.

"The Legislature has also committed $1 million in typhoon recovery. These funds will help address possible shortfalls for residents who may not be eligible for IA and need direct housing assistance. I thank[the] Legislature…for being proactive in authoring the bill, so that everyone who was affected receives the help they need."

He thanked Trump and other White House officials, along with FEMA and their federal partners, for all the help. "The Legislature and everyone in our community, from the first responders to our volunteers to the many people who came out to donate for Ayuda Luta. Our islands are resilient. We will not stop until every person affected is back to normalcy," Torres said.

$7.25

From Page 1

hour, nationally as well as in the Marianas.

California has minimum wage at $11 for businesses with 26 or more employees of $10.50 with 25 or fewer. Minimum wage also varies in each city of the third largest state.

SeaTac, a city in southern King County in Washington State, had the highest hourly wage at $15.64 for hospitality and transportation employees. Washington State has a minimum wage of $11.50.

The states of Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oklahoma, and Wisconsin are the others that have the federal minimum wage level at $7.25 per hour. Guam's minimum wage is $8.25, $1 higher than the federal rate.

An increase in the prices of goods, services, and other commodities are also expected in order for businesses to cover the expenses of their employees' salaries.

Some stores have already increased the prices of the goods that are being sold, some restaurants had also began charging extra for food that would either be picked up or taken out and even illegal taxi services have also raised their fare prices.

A few years ago, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce said that small businesses was one of their concerns when it comes to salary increases where most owners, especially mom and pop stores, may not be able to afford the raise their employees' wages.

Having a salary range for each job category—like what the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands have implemented—is one possible solution for the local government and private sector.

The Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007, which was made into law under Public Law 110-28, initially increased the CNMI's minimum wage by 50 cents, from $3.05 an hour to $3.55 an hour. A year after, another 50-cent increase boosted that to $4.05 an hour.

In May 26, 2009, the minimum wage was raised by another 50 cents, boosting it to $4.55 an hour.

On Sept. 30, 2010, the minimum wage increased to $5.05 per hour. Then a new law put off the scheduled minimum wage increase in 2011 and mandated a new timetable for the increases.

In Sept. 30, 2012, the minimum wage increased to $5.55 per hour and that rate stayed the same in 2013.

On Sept. 30, 2014, the minimum wage increased to $6.05 per hour before being delayed again in 2015.

On Sept. 30, 2016, the minimum wage increased to $6.55 per hour, which became $7.05 an hour in 2017. This increase is the last increase mandated under the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007. Any further increase would require a new law.

The delays in the wage increases were made at the request of the CNMI.

IN SEXUAL ASSAULT OF MINOR CASE

OPD seeks interview tape of alleged rape victim

The Office of the Public Defender wants the Superior Court to compel the Office of the Attorney General to produce recordings of interviews of a girl who was allegedly raped by a 43-year-old man.

Assistant public defender Heather M. Zona, counsel for Joseph Seman Epina, also asked the court to hold an evidentiary hearing to determine the existence and nature of any outstanding discovery.

Zona said the evidence and information are material to the defense and disclosure would be neither unreasonable not oppressive to the government.

The requested evidence and information, Zona said, will facilitate a fair, efficient, and just disposition of the charges against Epina.

The defense counsel said that, on March 16, 2016, Epina served a discovery request on the OAG to produce some documents, reports and tapes.

Zona said that at a recent evidentiary hearing concerning memory taint of the alleged victim, the girl testified she met with former assistant attorney general Betsy Weintraub on numerous occasions.

Zona said the alleged victim testified that on some of those occasions the interviews were recorded on Weintraub's phone

She said until the girl's recent testimony, such material had never been made known or available to the defense even though it was requested and this case has been pending since March 2016.

She said the defense only has been provided with two videotapes of interviews of the alleged victim, one of such tapes cuts off in the middle.

"None of the recordings from the telephone has been produced," Zona said.

Zona added that, on Aug. 7, 2018—the second day of the evidentiary hearing concerning the girl's tainted memory—the prosecution provided the defense with a report dated July 15, 2018 documenting an interview conducted by assistant attorney general Teri Tenorio on April 24, 2018.

She said no explanation was made as to why this information was not made available sooner.

Zona said the report reflects the girl repeatedly told the prosecution she did not remember the alleged events but then also changed her story substantially.

Zona said the timing of production of the report, as well as the prosecution's failure to provide other recorded interviews, suggest the prosecution has not fully complied with its obligations.

The defense counsel said suppression by the prosecution of evidence favorable to an accused upon request violates due process where the evidence is material either to guilt or to punishment.

Zona said if the government refuses to disclose any evidence or information ordered by the court, or if it has doubts as to the propriety of disclosure, the prosecution's duty is to submit the questioned material to the court for review.

To date, she said, the government has provided two videotaped interviews of a former prosecutor interviewing the girl, as well as a videotape of another witness.

Zona said the defense maintains its request for any and all videotaped interviews with the girl.

She said these materials go to the credibility of the alleged victim, as well as the events alleged to have occurred.

She said the materials also are relevant to the extent they reflect the prosecution engaging in misconduct, such as suggesting to the girl that the prosecution will try to keep certain material from the defense, as is the case on one of the videotaped interviews provided.

Epina is facing charges of allegedly raping a then-12-year-old girl at her relative's house on Saipan on March 12, 2016. The girl told police that it was not the first time that Epina sexually assaulted her.

The OAG charged Epina with sexual assault of a minor in the first degree, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. ***(Ferdie De La Torre)***

ARMATECH
CCTV Camera System Services & Maintenance
Tel: (670) 234-8895 • Fax: (670) 234-8894
Mobile: (670) 287-5525 / (670) 783-8895

STAY ALERT DON'T GET HURT
A friendly reminder from
LP GAS WUSHIN
Since1983 Committed to Safety Excellence
322-7415/322-8733

ATTENTION
Government Employees & Retirees!
The Island Smiles Dental Plan now available via your allotment
- **Low Cost:** $5.00 (Individual Plan) $6.00 (Two-Party Plan) or $7.00 (Family Plan) per allotment. Least expensive dental plan in the CNMI
- Members receive at LEAST 20%-50% discounts on all dental procedures. No exceptions!
- **Plan Provider:** Paradise Dental Center. State-of-the art, full service General and Cosmetic dental clinic. Newest dental clinic and most experienced dentist in the CNMI. Really nice people!

AWARD-WINNING DENTIST
KIND AND GENTLE
DR. NELSON KRUM

Paradise Dental Spa
Hawaii Dental Service, TakeCare & Staywell Insurances also accepted. Medicaid patients welcome!
Call 234-4040
Middle Road, Gualo Rai, across Chong's
Stop by and pick up your enrollment packet or send an email request to paradisedentalsaipan@gmail.com

WELCOME
TO Fabulous
SAIPAN VEGAS
GOLF RESORT & SLOT CLUB
THE BEST GAMING CLUB IN SAIPAN
is proud to announce
OCTOBER
PLAYER PROMOTIONS
WEEKLY SATURDAY MID-NIGHT
Mega Draws
with $2,500 Saturday Mega Draws &
$5,000 End of Month Super Mega Draw
All the daily hourly promotion $25 and $50
free play voucher winners are eligible to win
the big weekly Mega Draw prizes!
More chances
to win bigger prizes!
Come play today and you could be the next big winner!

Appeals court vacates man's prison sentence

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has vacated the conviction of a man who was slapped with a 63-month prison term for his role behind the shipment of 4.9 lbs of methamphetamine or "ice" in 2015 to the CNMI.

In a ruling on Thursday, Ninth Circuit judges Mary M. Schroeder, Eugene E. Siler, and Mary H. Murguia concluded that U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona made a reversible error when she told the jury that it could find Zhaopeng Chen guilty based on deliberate ignorance.

The 9th Circuit judges remanded Chen's case to the District Court.

The judges said the evidence does not support an inference that Chen was aware of a "high probability" that his co-defendants, Xi Huang and Shicheng Cai, were distributing methamphetamine, but took steps to avoid learning all of the facts.

Citing precedent, the judges said the Ninth Circuit has upheld the deliberate ignorance instruction in cases where the facts strongly point toward illegal activity.

The judges said Chen communicating with the conspirators prior to arriving on Saipan, renting a car at Huang's request, and driving around with Huang and Cai on the day in question are not the type of "high probability" facts where the Circuit has previously approved giving the deliberate ignorance instruction.

"Moreover, in light of our case law counseling that this instruction should be given only rarely to avoid conviction on a negligence standard, we conclude that the facts here did not support giving the deliberate instruction," the judges said

Huang and Cai pleaded guilty. Chen went to trial.

On Sept. 7, 2016, a federal jury unanimously found Chen guilty of conspiracy to possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine.

Shortly after the guilty verdict was announced, Chen cried and banged his head on the wooden wall next to his table. Two U.S. Marshals Service officers immediately tackled the handcuffed but resisting Chen to the floor. Two other officers jumped in to assist them. The jurors were already out of the courtroom when the brief commotion occurred.

On Dec. 19, 2016, Manglona sentenced Chen to 63 months in prison—five years and three months, with credit for 379 days of time served.

Chen, through counsel David G. Banes, appealed to the Ninth Circuit to reverse his conviction.

Banes asserted that Chen's conviction is not supported by sufficient evidence and that Manglona erred by giving the jury a "deliberate ignorance" jury instruction.

In vacating the conviction, the 9th Circuit judges said taking the evidence presented in the U.S. government's case—such as Chen's communicating with the conspirators prior to arriving on Saipan, renting a car at Huang's request, driving around with Huang and Cai on the day in question, and denying knowing the whereabouts of the green car—in the light most favorable to the U.S. government, they conclude that a reasonable jury could have found the essential elements of the conspiracy, and Manglona did not err in denying Chen's motion for judgment of acquittal before submission to the jury.

The judges said before submitting the case to the jury, Manglona instructed the jury that it could find that Chen acted knowingly if it found "beyond a reasonable doubt that Chen was aware of a high probability that drugs were being picked up from the Sunleader warehouse, and Chen deliberately avoided learning the truth."

The judges said the Circuit has explained that the "deliberate ignorance instruction" should rarely be given "because of the risk that the jury will convict on a standard of negligence: that the defendant should have known the conduct was illegal."

Therefore, the judges said, although rare, the deliberate ignorance instruction is proper where the facts "support the inference that the defendant was aware of a high probability of the existence of the fact in question and purposely contrived to avoid learning all of the facts in order to have a defense in the event of a subsequent prosecution."

Customs inspectors discovered the contraband hidden in one of nine paint buckets during a routine inspection of a container from China on Dec. 2, 2015.

Surveillance operation led to the arrest of Huang, Chen and Cai near Stanford Hotel in San Vicente on Dec. 4, 2015.

Authorities valued the seized "ice" at $850,000—at that time the second largest haul of illegal drugs in CNMI history.

Huang, who was tagged as the leader of the group, was sentenced to 15 years and eight months in prison. Cai was slapped with 41 months in prison.

ORSINI, ANDREW
"Familian Denang Minko"
For CNMI State Board of Education

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE PEOPLE OF SAIPAN

To All My Dear People of Saipan, My Families, Relatives, and Friends, as a candidate for the State Board of Education, I humbly ask for your support in this upcoming general election on November 6, 2018. As a public servant, it is in my heart to offer my utmost service to helping all our CNMI Children in their educational endeavor. Our children must be better prepared to face the challenges in their lives. We are all obligated to ensuring that our children are provided and attain the best education possible. And with your help, together, we can make this happen.

Si' Yu'us Ma'ase, Olomwaay, and Maraming Salamat Po!

BIBA Marianas!
And May God Bless You All!

Sincerely,
Andrew Orsini

"A Better Education for A Better Economy"

How's Your Hearing?

Specializing in:

- Hearing Evaluations
- Custom fitted hearing aids
- Digital and ProgrammableTechnology
- Custom Communication Devices

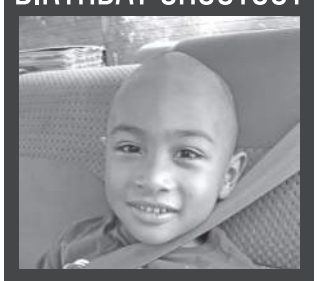
Thursday, October 4th 9:00am - 4:00pm
at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan

Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing Instrument Sciences
Email: rosshearingaids@yahoo.com

Ross Hearing Aids

All interested patients should call Marianas Medical Clinic for scheduling
234-3925/7
Most Insurance Accepted

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Belated happy 6th birthday to our son, Marleon Junel Pinaula Repeki, who celebrated his birthday on Sept. 29, 2018. May the Lord bless you with many more birthdays to come and we hope you enjoyed your special day. We love you! Love always, Daddy, Mommy, your brothers Jacob, E.J., and the entire family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Youth take over govt roles in Takeover Day

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 2018 Youth Takeover Day last Thursday featured high school —and even some college—students taking over the roles of veteran government employees and getting a brief glimpse of what these employees do, right up to the roles that lawmakers and the governor perform.

The 2018 Youth Takeover Day was organized by the Office of the Governor's Youth Affairs Office headed by special assistant Shelane Borja.

There were 180 participants from Marianas High School, Saipan Southern High School, Kagman High School, Mount Carmel School, Grace Christian Academy, and Da'ok Academy, while a total of 95 mentors from the government, non-profit organizations, private organizations, federal agencies, and businesses throughout Saipan also participated.

"The goal of Youth Takeover Day is to put young people at the forefront of decision-making and experience real-life career opportunities. Takeover Day is also for the youth to explore their potential careers of interest," Borja told *Saipan Tribune.* "Empowering our youth to pursue careers across all fields and sectors ultimately leads to a Commonwealth that improves and protects the lives of those who call our island home. Our goal is to help plant the seed of empowerment.

Two students at the office of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres participated in Thursday's proclamation signings as well as a historic budget signing. The students, Tine Reyes and Hannah Santos, described Torres as enthusiastic for the Commonwealth's future.

"Their genuine curiosity shows me how important it is to cultivate these interests for our future generations of leaders. At the end of the day and even when my term comes to an end, we all hope that we will leave the government better than when we began public service," Torres told *Saipan Tribune*. "To all our youth, thank you for your participation as we strive to give you a better government when you are ready to run the government."

Torres said the youth must be empowered so that they are provided with opportunities to pursue their dreams and "create their own stories of success."

Kyle Thorne, a Marianas High School ongoing junior who was a Public School System commissioner for a day, noted that the experience was "hectic."

"I see that the…bosses of the government departments [don't have it] easy," he said. "I did not get to see everything PSS [interim] commissioner Glenn Muña does for his job, but I was able to [get involved] with the basics and the most important aspects of his role at PSS.

Thorne can sees himself in the same environment career-wise.

"I definitely think a career like this suits me because I get to advocate for…our student population. In order to have a successful economy we must [provide] our student's education for a better tomorrow."

Muña, who spent the whole day with Thorne, told *Saipan Tribune* that the eight pairs of extra hands helped PSS and that he wishes for more participation in next year's Youth Takeover Day.

"We took them to see all the different departments that support the schools," he said. Muña also brought with him a small group of students to a Senate session on Thursday on Capitol Hill.

"…I wanted our students to also see that we don't just sit in our offices. We also work with the legislative branch and our executive branch to advocate for our students. I am glad they were able to experience that," he said.

Thorne spoke on behalf of Muña during the public comments section of the Senate session on Thursay, expressing the gratitude of PSS toward the Legislature for voting in favor of a supplemental budget bill that would give PSS about $3.7 million.

Jovanavin Dela Cruz, a senior of Da'ok Academy, job-shadowed Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) during the Senate session.

"…It was a new experience and I am glad I came in to find out more of what senators had to go through to pass bills and laws," he said, noting that it was a unique experience to be involved with the fate of bills instead of merely knowing the purpose and repercussions of a bill becoming law.

Dela Cruz said he sees himself helping the community just like the Legislature, but in a different aspect—not as a politician.

"I am hoping someday I can come back and talk with the Legislature to experience this again," he said.

MHS senior Mayiah Dueñas was youth Senate president while job-shadowing Sen. President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan).

Dueñas told *Saipan Tribune* that she wishes to enter the U.S. military. She noted that she does not see herself as a politician in the future; however, she said she isn't closing her doors to anything yet.

"I am just trying to get into the military right now. I am really focusing on that. Career-wise, I am not too sure yet," she said.

Palacios told *Saipan Tribune* that the Youth Takeover Day also saw some action on the tertiary level, with Northern Marianas College being involved with the event.

"We are glad that Borja put it together again this year and we hope that they continue doing this [in the years to come]," he said.

"A Tradition of Excellence!"

Dr. Dennis Williams, a renowned eye surgeon, continues the tradition of excellence at Marianas Eye Institute.

- Received a CNMI House Resolution, "for conducting the CNMI's first Corneal Transplant"
- Listed in "Best Doctors in America"
- Board Certified Ophthalmologist

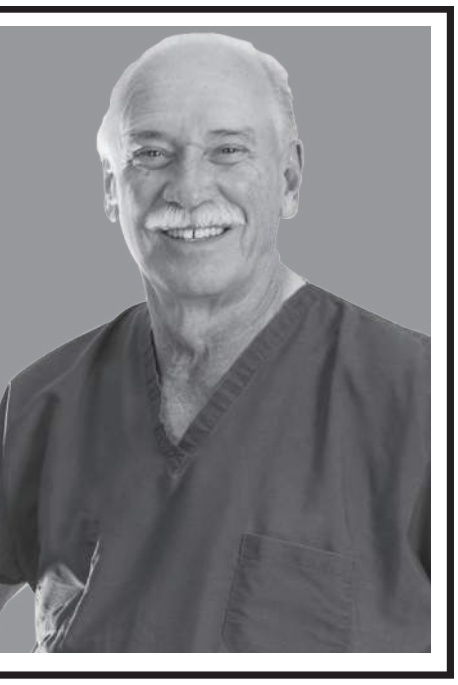
Prior Experience:

- Assistant Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, USF
- Director of Corneal Transplant and Refractive Surgery St. Luke's Cataract and Laser Institute, Florida
- Board of Directors, American Board of Eye Surgery
- President, Cataract Teaching Foundation
- Instructor, American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery

We welcome Aetna, Self-pay, Staywell, Netcare, Calvo's, TakeCare, Medicaid, Medicare, Tricare, Blue Cross Blue Shield, and more!

Marianas Eye Institute
"Where Technology Meets Talent"

235-9090
Walk-in's welcome
Beach Road Garapan.



CLUB 88
THE BEST LITTLE GAMING CLUB IN SAIPAN
OCTOBER
PLAYER PROMOTIONS
Great daily player promotional draws, including a 12pm lunch time draw, with $250 cash prize daily and free play vouchers and Vegas resort stays, with over $22,000 to be won by Lucky 88 Players!
PLUS $5000 October 6th, the
"New 88 Grand Opening Celebration Draw"
Come Play today and you could be a big winner!

October is Humanities Month

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Humanities Council is still accepting nominations for the Governor's Humanities Awards, which will serve as the highlight of the celebration of the CNMI Humanities Month that starts today.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed last week's proclamation at the conference room of the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill declaring October as CNMI Humanities Month.

The Humanities Awards have become an annual part of the NMHC to honor individuals or groups for the promotion of the humanities in the Commonwealth.

Research and publication, preservation of traditional cultural practices, preservation of CNMI history, and Outstanding Humanities Teacher (both in classroom and non-classroom settings) are the categories for the awards.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is joined by Cabinet officials and humanities advocates after signing last week's proclamation at the conference room of the Office of the Governor on Capital Hill declaring October as CNMI Humanities Month.

JON PEREZ

NMHC board chair Polly Masga said they are still encouraging everyone to send in their nominations as the deadline is set on Oct. 12 at 4:30pm. Nominations can be dropped off or sent to the NMHC office at Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai on Middle Road.

"[NMHC has] been around for more than 20 years. We would like to invite you in October and we will have the Governor's Humanities Award," said Masga "Humanities are a really broad spectrum. It is of different things. It is not just only about culture but a variety of different things. Whether in poetry, culture, or music."

Torres, in his brief remarks, said it also takes skill in learning and expressing one's culture. "Whether in language, music, the arts, not everybody in this room have that skill. If you have that, please participate in expressing our culture."

"I can't sing, draw, or paint. I can speak the language and appreciate," added Torres in jest and said that NMHC will be getting $50,000 from the CNMI 2019 fiscal year budget. "We would like to do more and our doors are always open."

He also thanked former NMHC executive director Scott Russell, who retired last month, for more than 10 years of service on the council.

No new leads in Dela Cruz's death

The Department of Public Safety has uncovered no new leads since the death of 37-year-old Allan Boyer Dela Cruz over 12 months ago.

That means the case remains open and that police investigation remains ongoing, according to DPS public information officer Jackie Rae Shephard.

The department and the NMI Crime Stoppers team continue to urge anyone who may have information about Dela Cruz's death to call the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272.

September marked one year since Dela Cruz's death and the case remains open, according to Shephard.

Dela Cruz's body remains at the Commonwealth Health Center morgue.

The Office of the Attorney General has yet to respond to inquiries on updates it may have about Delacruz's case.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the body of 37-year-old Dela Cruz was found outside his home on Mt. Tapochau on Capital Hill last Sept. 22, 2017.

Guam chief medical examiner Dr. Aurelio Espinola, who did the autopsy, later ruled that the cause of Dela Cruz's death was "undetermined" which led to the department treating the case as a homicide. Espinola conducted the autopsy at the CHC's morgue last Oct. 21 2017. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Rehabilitation Council
&
Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
P.O. Box 501521, Navy Hill – Bldg. N2, Saipan, MP 96950

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation (OVR), in collaboration with the State Rehabilitation Council (SRC), is seeking public comments on OVR's revisions to its Supported Employment Policy.

SRC and OVR believe that feedback and comments are valuable for program improvement. The policies can be reviewed on the OVR website: www.ovrgov.net. Comments on these polices can be emailed to Josephine Tudela at jo@ovrgov.net, by phone at (670) 322-6537, or by mail to P.O. Box 501521, Saipan, MP 96950.

Comments will be received up until October 20, 2018.

Thank You, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and Ghilisou,

/s/ Arlene Kay A. Yamagata, M.S., C.R.C.
Director

Commonwealth Of The Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Caller Box 10007, 1356 Mednilla Ave., Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950
Website: www.marianaslabor.net

JOB FAIR

"WORK MARIANAS - FACHO'CHU' MARIANAS - ANGAANG MARIANAS"

Saturday, October 06, 2018
Kagman High School
9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

For more information, contact the CNMI Department of Labor at:
Tel. No.: 664-3190 / 322-0996 or email:

Alice Agulto – albagulto.dol@gmail.com
Manases Iguel – manasesiguel@gmail.com
James Ulloa – julloalabor@gmail.com
Vivian Fleming – dolvfleming@gmail.com
Dennis Cabrera – denmaicabrera@gmail.com
Eugene Tebuteb – etebuteb.dol@gmail.com

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

INVITATION TO BID
MVA-ITB-18-2010

PASEO DE MARIANAS PEDESTRIAN MALL IMPROVEMENTS

Submission Date: December 14, 2018
Time: 3:00 pm

Submit sealed ITB to:
Procurement Office
Marianas Visitors Authority
P.O. Box 500861
Saipan, MP 96950

A Mandatory Pre- BID Conference will be held on Monday, October 15, 2018 at 9:00 AM in the main conference room at the MVA office in San Jose. A site walk will be conducted immediately after the pre-BID in order to further explain the project, and allow interested firms to become familiarized with the site. No BID will be accepted from any firm which fails to attend this mandatory pre-BID conference and site walk.

Interested parties may pick up the ITB package at the Marianas Visitors Authority office between 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday, except holidays or by visiting the MVA website at www.mymarianas.com

/s/ Christopher A. Concepcion
Managing Director

/s/ Marian Aldan-Pierce
Chairperson, MVA Board of Directors

Senate approves $20.88M supplemental budget

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate unanimously passed Wednesday last week an over $20.88-million supplemental budget derived from the special casino gross revenue tax, including the payment for a balance of the government to the Settlement Fund from fiscal year 2016.

After just two days since receiving the transmittal letter from the House endorsing Rep. Angel A. Demapan's (R-Saipan) House Bill 20-187, HD2, the Senate passed without question the bill, which appropriates a total of over $20.88 million from the special casino gross revenue tax account.

Sens. Paul Manglona (R-Rota) and Steve Mesngong (R-Rota) were both absent at the session.

H.B. 20-187 also included provisions that addressed balances owed the CNMI Settlement Fund from fiscal year 2016. Over $11.53 million is appropriated to the CNMI Settlement Fund for the fiscal year 2016 Alternative Payment of a Greater Amount, or APGA.

Sen. President Arnold I. Palacios (R-Saipan) told *Saipan Tribune* that Settlement Fund trustee Joyce Tang reportedly wrote Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, reminding him of the annual obligation the CNMI government agreed to when the NMI Retirement Fund collapsed a few years back.

"…Every year in the inclusion of the financial audit report gives final figures on the resources of the Commonwealth. If it reaches a certain threshold…17 percent of that [revenue] has to be remitted and covered over the Settlement Fund," Palacios told *Saipan Tribune*. "The $11.5 million we appropriated under this legislation is to pay for the fiscal year 2016 balances."

Palacios noted that the previous combined balances owed the Settlement Fund for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 totaled $7.1 million. He added that there was an upward trend for fiscal year 2016 since the economy during that period was improving while the balance owed the fund in fiscal year 2017 was significantly larger than fiscal year 2016's.

Palacios did not readily have Tang's letter and did not have the exact figure for fiscal year 2017.

Besides the obligation to the Settlement Fund, the Public School System was appropriated $3.7 million for utilities, capital improvement projects, the Special Education Program, and the purchase of air conditioning units for the Dr. Rita Hocog Inos Jr./ Sr. High School.

Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) reiterated a recent statement of PSS interim commissioner Glenn Muña that committed to providing new air conditioning units to the Sinapalo Elementary School as well.

"…[The school] will also benefit with new air-conditioners from what has been allotted to PSS," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Finance secretary has the expenditure authority of $1 million for Typhoon Mangkhut recovery efforts and costs. The bill as passed by the Senate did not specify which agency it was being appropriated to.

Some $3.5 million was further appropriated "for the CNMI retiree bonuses to be distributed equally to all Settlement class members and NMI Retirement Fund members receiving annuity."

The Northern Marianas College was appropriated $1 million, while the Marianas Political Status Commission, the group tasked with reviewing the political relationship between the CNMI and the U.S., was appropriated $150,000.

The bill now heads to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' desk.

Dogs shot dead in Guam

A second dog is found dead Friday in Yigo, Guam.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GUAM—The Guam animal group, Guam Animals In Need, or GAIN, issued a public warning last Friday about a series of violent attacks on dogs in Yigo.

Following the announcement, another dog was found dead in the same Yigo neighborhood.

At noon Friday, Dr. Thomas Poole, Guam territorial veterinarian, completed autopsies on both Pugua (the pet dog killed Thursday last week) and the new dog found dead Friday. Both dogs have bullet wounds.

Poole states that Pugua likely died from "a large caliber bullet, probably from a handgun 9mm or larger." Due to the nature of the bullet wound and where he was hit, Poole states that Pugua died instantly and did not travel any distance.

He further stated that the dog found Friday died from a small-caliber bullet, likely a 22 caliber.

Pugua was found dead in a carport, nearest the family entrance. Four dogs have now been shot in the same Yigo neighborhood, three of whom have died.

"This is a terrifying, ongoing threat," said GAIN board president Cyrus Luhr. "Animal abusers don't stop at just animals. Someone is roaming this Yigo neighborhood with a gun, going onto private property, and killing at will. Please be safe, keep an eye out, and report all suspicious activity to the authorities."

Information is being sought on a person of interest who recently made threats against Pugua and other neighborhood dogs. He is described as a larger (6', 200-230 lbs) Chamorro man with tattoos and short black hair, last seen Wednesday between 4pm and 5 pm in Yigo (near the Mayor's Office) pushing a stroller alongside a pregnant Chamorro woman (5'5", 150 lbs) with long black hair, and two children under the age of 3.

Anyone with information about these incidents is urged to contact the Guam Police Department, or Guam Crime Stoppers by visiting guam.crimestoppersweb.com, calling 477-HELP (4357), or texting 486-HELP (4357). ***(PR)***

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXVIII, Issue No. 193

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com

Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Blasey Ford's grilling shows #whyididntreport

If you watched the testimony of Christine Blasey Ford, you probably understand a little better why women stay silent about sexual assault. Look at what happens when they do speak. The victim goes on trial—not the person she says assaulted her. The victim is disbelieved. She is disrespected.

We're not talking about reasonable challenges to Ms. Ford's allegation that Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her at a party when they were both teenagers. We're talking about the shaming, blaming and threats she's endured. She's had to move because she's afraid for her family's safety. "I have been called the most vile and hateful names imaginable," she said.

The Republican senators who had her testify before the Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday may have made a mistake. This appears to be backfiring. She looks like a nice woman getting interrogated for a crime she didn't commit. What woman watching the questioning didn't cringe with sympathy for her? Didn't feel a tinge of respect for the strength she had to summon to get on that stand to tell a story that some of the most powerful people in the nation are trying to discredit?

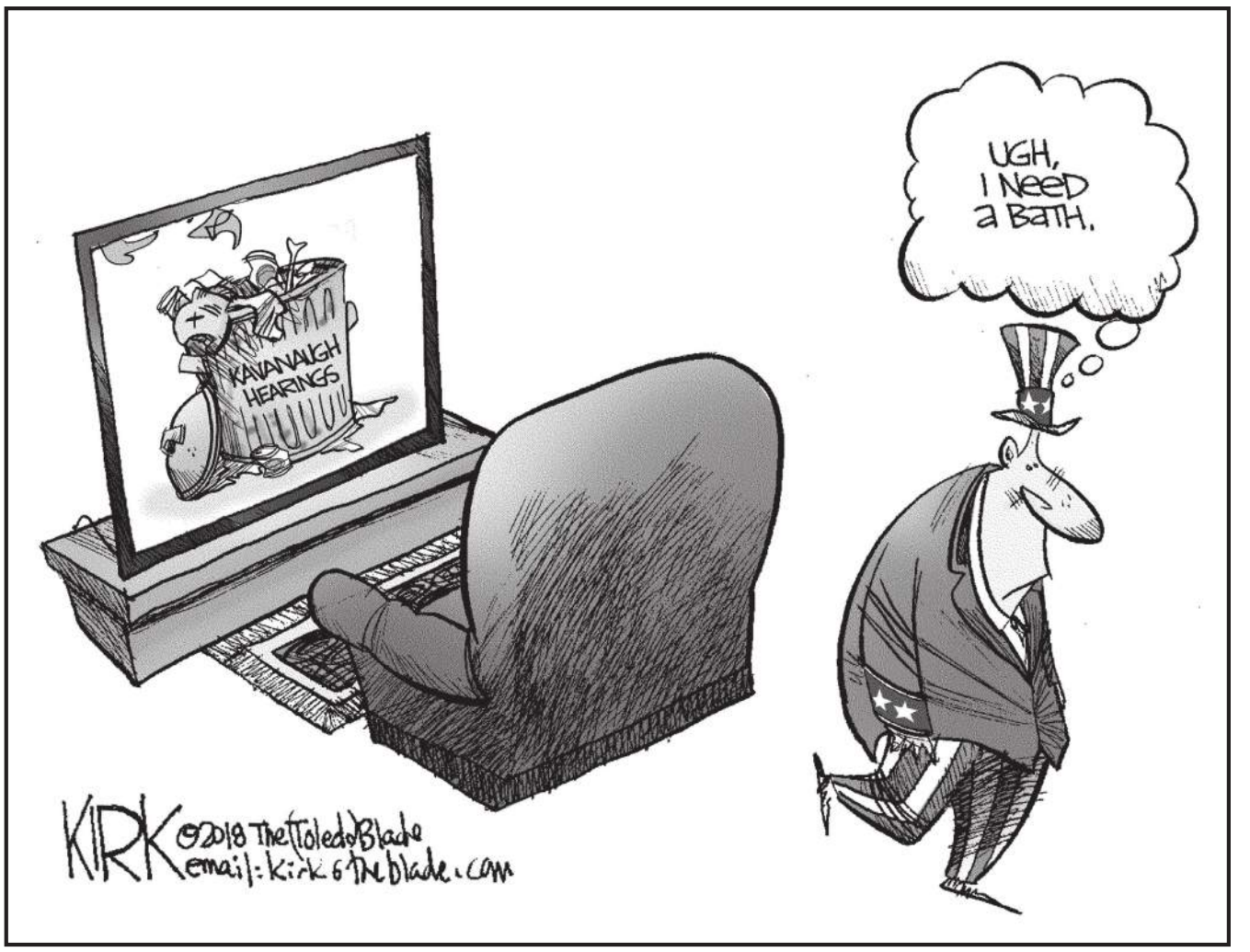
Watching her undergo that trial, it becomes clear why a 15-year-old might be afraid to tell anyone about an assault—because of what she, not her assailant, would face. She would be quite aware of the questions she'd be asked—Did she do anything to provoke the attack? What was she wearing? Did she lead him on? Was she in the wrong place? Was she alone?—and the implicit finger-pointing in those questions. This moment is a painful reminder of how backward our society is when it comes to rape.

So that the all-male roster of Republicans on the Judiciary Committee wouldn't look like bullies themselves, they took the unprecedented step of hiring a female prosecutor to question Ms. Ford. They've refused to reopen Mr. Kavanaugh's FBI background investigation to look into her allegations and others that have surfaced since. They prefer the public grilling method.

Thank you, Sen. Richard Blumenthal, for supporting Ms. Ford during the ordeal with words that brought tears to her eyes and many others'. The senator quoted from Republican Sen. Lindsey Graham's book, "My Story," that it takes "courage from a deep and hidden place for a rape victim or sexually abused child to testify against their assailant."

On Thursday, the nation could see why.

(c)2018 *The Hartford Courant* (Hartford, Conn.)



In daylong Senate hearings, a circus of human pain

By CHRIS JONES
Chicago Tribune

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.

"This is a circus," roared the furious Judge Brett Kavanaugh, reflecting how we often respond when a seemingly controlled life of achievement devolves into escalating chaos that we discover we can't control. We're all in show business. But that was not the right metaphor for a dramatic spectacle Thursday so raw, so gripping, so emotional, so terrifying, frankly, that anyone who started watching could not pull themselves away.

Not unless you meant the circus of human pain.

On Thursday, the Supreme Court nominee Kavanaugh and Christine Blasey Ford, a woman who accused him of sexual assault in the 1980s, testified in front of the Senate Judiciary Committee in Washington, D.C. This was a day so excruciating, in fact, so relentless in its emotional cruelty, that merely to consume it (all day long) involved feelings of personal guilt. It was a reminder, another reminder, of the ineptness of the U.S. Senate when it comes to the safe and fair examination of personal accusation.

Thursday morning, between monologuing senators arguing about their own palpably destructive procedures and sticking to their talking points, America watched an unspeakably brave woman reliving something that remained firmly in her present.

Memories of traumatic events do not leave us and are often manifest in overt vulnerability, which requires enormous strength to live with, let alone overcome. Anyone who follows the theater, that art form where we come together to hear often painful stories of past experiences in the hope that we might better learn how to live together on this planet, comes to prize moments when we watch what seems like life being lived in the moment. See enough of it and you learn when pain is fake.

But our most vaunted theater actors are people living truthfully in imaginary circumstances. It is actually far more difficult to live truthfully in truthful and terrible circumstances. That was what Ford clearly was doing Thursday morning; to interpret her testimony, as intellectually rich as it was sincere, merely as a performance or an act of political partisanship was to suggest an acting ability so profound as to be inconceivable.

Everything about Ford—her trapped voice, her gulps, her presence in the moment, her forthcoming nature, the desire for everything to be over—rang true. Whatever one's political stripe, no reasonable person with an open mind could possibly doubt that this was anything other than her personal truth.

But in this particular arena, even this could not be conceded.

To many of us watching, this day was a clear delineation of how privileged winners get to write their own history of personal achievement; their victims must suffer in silence. It also was a reminder of how a night trivial in memory to one party can be catastrophic to another, ricocheting through decades of her subsequent life, changing everything from her voice to her potential for happiness.

Once Kavanaugh took the stand, he roared and railed like Coriolanus in a tragic Shakespearean mixture of anger, defiance and sorrow. The senators certainly looked Shakespearean in their pervasive pettiness, nattering nabobs of repetition and personal brand burnishment, lacking in feeling and consumed by covering themselves. Even as those before them suffered.

That said, tragic metaphors don't sit so easily with a defense that include the cultural dominance of "Porky's" and "Fast Times at Ridgemont High" as potential evidence.

More clearly than ever before, the horrors of a youth in the cultural petri dish of the early 1980s was on naked display. What was the impact of those Hollywood films on the young men who watched them? This was the formative era of many of those who now are being called to account. What did those movies do?

Kavanaugh's rage was understandable and unsurprising: after all, his potential fate was professional death, at a minimum, and he surely had intuited the most likely result of the day, which would be no conclusive disposition of what had happened. All historical events are, by their very definition, absent and subject to interpretation. But what was so extraordinary about this event was its very existence was contested by Kavanaugh. He found himself in a fight not so much about what happened on the night in question, but whether it happened at all.

On a deeper level, Kavanaugh also had clearly figured out he was caught in precisely the kind of trap that befell Oedipus the King in the iconic Sophocles play of that name.

He surely knew that the anger he needed to summon to defend himself against what he saw as a smear campaign by the Democrats on the committee would, in fact, disqualify him for the very job he sought: that of a nonpartisan judge capable of gaining the trust and respect of all Americans. Especially its women.

He knew he could not win. His fate was otherwise.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Ford, Kavanaugh, raw emotion and the rule of law

By JOHN KASS
Chicago Tribune

John Kass is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune. *Readers may send him email at jskass@chicagotribune.com.*

You've probably figured out that most Americans have already made up their minds about Judge Brett Kavanaugh and Christine Blasey Ford.

He's the nominee to the Supreme Court. She's the woman accusing him of sexual assault 36 years ago when they were in high school.

He denies it ever happened. She insists she's telling the truth. And both were so compelling, so believable, that it was difficult to choose between them.

And as the two testified Thursday about those allegations before the Senate Judiciary Committee, there was enough passion and raw emotion to satisfy every TV news exec in America. You'd need a crew with mops to wipe it all up off the committee floor.

He cried when he mentioned his little girls, who he said had prayed for Ford. She looked terrified when describing him at a high school party, on top of her, covering her mouth.

He seemed believable when he said it was a lie. She seemed believable when she said it was all true.

It was tragic. It was depressing.

But it was also ridiculous, as when Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, the Rhode Island Democrat, tried to get Kavanaugh on a trick question:

Whitehouse: The Devil's Triangle?

Kavanaugh: It's a drinking game. Ever play quarters?

Whitehouse: No.

Whitehouse frowned. Of course Whitehouse has never played quarters. He's a distinguished senator.

And he's already made up his mind anyway about Kavanaugh and Ford. Whitehouse is a Democrat. Kavanaugh is the Republican nominee of President Donald Trump.

Your wife or husband has probably already made up her or his mind too; and your brother, your sister, your kids, your friends, your priest, your barber. We're so very tribal now, and our tribal leaders use emotion to herd us.

Before the hearing began, you could flip channels and see talking heads explaining it as a contest of credibility. The witness who was most compelling would win the day. This was the idea on all the networks, all the lefty ones and the righty one.

It was a day for emotion and passion on TV.

Oh, the ringmasters talked about "corroboration" or the "lack of corroboration." But what they really wanted was opera. The moment demanded opera. And they got it.

Ford talked about how Kavanaugh and a friend, at a party, pushed her onto a bed and Kavanaugh began pawing at her, covering her mouth so that she thought she'd die. What she remembered was the "laughter."

"The uproarious laughter between the two and they're having fun at my expense," she said, in a strained voice.

Sen. Dick Durbin, the Illinois Democrat, asked her if she were sure it was Kavanaugh. "One hundred percent," she said.

But a short time later, Kavanaugh testified that he never assaulted anyone, that Ford's allegation was untrue, that his reputation has been ruined forever, that his family, his daughters, have been destroyed.

Democrats wanted to focus on Ford, but Kavanaugh also denied the other allegations of sexual assault coming at him from the Democratic camp and spread by many in the media: the story that he exposed himself to a woman at Yale (that even The New York Times wouldn't print) and the other story pushed by a porn lawyer that Kavanaugh was a gang rapist.

"This confirmation process has become a national disgrace," he said in his opening statement. "The Constitution gives the Senate an important role in the confirmation process, but you have replaced 'advice and consent' with 'search and destroy.' "

Senators are expected to listen to testimony, consider the records and come to conclusions. But Democrats would rather delay and bring in the FBI to delay some more. They've delayed this thing for weeks already.

Durbin played game show host and asked Kavanaugh to demand the FBI investigate whether he was lying. "Turn to your left in the front row to Don McGahn, counsel to President Donald Trump," Durbin said. "Ask him to suspend this hearing and nomination process until the FBI completes its investigation."

Kavanaugh tried to explain that he's already undergone six FBI background checks, that the FBI would only interview witnesses, not make conclusions, and that coming to a conclusion is the job of the Senate.

But the senator from Illinois frowned. And that's when I realized that Dick Durbin is a toad who could lick his own eyeballs.

A short time later, Sen. Lindsey Graham, the South Carolina Republican, ripped into Durbin and the other Democrats. Graham's face got all red.

"What you want to do is destroy this guy's life, hold this seat open and hope you win in 2020," Mr. Graham said. "This is the most unethical sham since I've been in politics."

Christine Ford has a claim of sexual assault. She seemed believable, and I'm told she must be believed. But the witnesses she said were at that party 36 years ago say there was no party.

It also seems clear that the Democrats have destroyed Kavanaugh's life, and his wife's life, and his daughters' lives. And the Kavanaugh girls will grow up to be women someday too.

So, what do we do when witnesses tell diametrically opposed, compelling and emotional stories?

Please don't tell me to shut up. But there was something we referred to once, called "the rule of law."

The rule of law would have us consider corroborating evidence, or the lack of any corroborating statements, like the witnesses who say there was no party.

The rule of law is not about emotion and passion. It is about logic and reason.

But when did logic and reason make for great TV or passionate politics?]

Why should we believe Christine Blasey Ford? It's in the details

By NICOLE BRODEUR
The Seattle Times

You know that party? The one where Christine Blasey Ford said she was assaulted and Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh said never happened? I've been to that party. Well, not that exact one, but parties like it.

I'll get back to that in a moment. What sticks with me now, after watching one of the most gut-wrenching episodes in American history, are the details.

The hand over her mouth. The "uproarious" laughter that Ford heard between Kavanaugh and his friend, Mark Judge, after she said she was pushed into a room and Kavanaugh pinned her to a bed. The moment when Ford looked over at Judge in the hope that he would see her panic and fear and help her. The sound of the two boys "pinballing" down the stairs after she escaped Kavanaugh's hold that summer day in 1982.

I am required to say here that Kavanaugh has denied Ford's allegations. So there. I said it.

But why would someone make up such a story? Why would she go to her congresswoman, The Washington Post, and then take a white-knuckle flight to Washington, D.C., to sit in a Senate hearing room and bare her long-held trauma in front of the country, the world, if it wasn't true?

Despite the fact that this Supreme Court nomination has taken on the outsized feel of a Super Bowl—CNN had nine commentators on the desk during the hearings—there is something haunting and familiar about Ford's story. The details that I return to and trust, despite Kavanaugh's angry, forceful denial; his long list of women friends; his pride over hiring female law clerks and his high school datebook.

For I know this scenario: Summer in the suburbs. Days spent at the pool. Wearing your bathing suit underneath your shorts. Heading straight to a friend's house from the swim club. Maybe a beer or two. People show up, a few peel off for a while, then show up again. Some drink too much. Some leave quickly.

You don't ask. You don't know. And then, decades later, people tell you things. The kinds of things—the sounds and smells—that researchers tell us lodge in the mind of assault victims.

I am also familiar with the kind of details that came later in Ford's life—namely, how in 2012, during a home renovation, she wanted to have a second front door put on her house. Her husband wanted to know why. Her answer was to finally describe the assault, in which she named Kavanaugh as her attacker.

All these years later, she wanted a second way out. "Another sequela of the assault," she called it.

I know people who have been traumatized and need space, who can't be in crowds or tight spaces, who walk into a room and look for the exits before taking off their coats.

For those reasons, I was struck by Ford's bravery, and noted the moments in her testimony when her voice began to shake.

And there was this: for such an accomplished woman—she is a research psychologist at Stanford University Medical School and a professor of psychology at Palo Alto University—Ford's voice sounded so tender and small. She answered some questions in the tone of a question; her voice rising at the end, as if she wasn't sure. Like, say, a 15-year-old girl might. Someone the same age as Ford at the time of the assault.

In contrast, Kavanaugh kicked off his testimony with guns blazing; his voice brimmed with anger as he blamed Ford's sexual-assault allegations on the Democratic Party, the press, the Clintons. He denied being at the party, in the room.

Whatever happens to Kavanaugh, whether or not he is confirmed, I will think of him as a privileged young man who pinned a girl to a bed and put his hand over her mouth, and who grew up to be a Supreme Court nominee.

Short of an FBI investigation proving Ford wrong, I will look at Kavanaugh just as I look at Clarence Thomas—not as a jurist on the highest court in the land, but as a boss who bragged to Anita Hill about the size of his penis, of watching porn, of his sexual prowess, and who once asked. "Who has put pubic hair on my Coke?"

I don't feel proud or inspired by Thomas, and I won't feel that way about Kavanaugh. I will only feel angry that an accomplished woman like Ford, in an attempt to do her "civic duty" was the subject of scorn by a party and a president who have no right to speak about sexual assault or its victims.

Trump reprised his umbrage at the long list of sexual-assault claims against him as he took Kavanaugh's side in a tweet: "I have no doubt that, if the attack on Dr. Ford was as bad as she says, charges would have been immediately filed with local Law Enforcement Authorities by either her or her loving parents."

" ... as bad as she says." Nice.

Kavanaugh was just as dismissive in his testimony.

"I've never done this," he said. "It's not who I am. It's not who I was."

To my ears, this sounded like a man who felt entitled and now found himself questioned, his ever-rising career put on hold. So he raged, he choked back tears, he blamed everyone but himself.

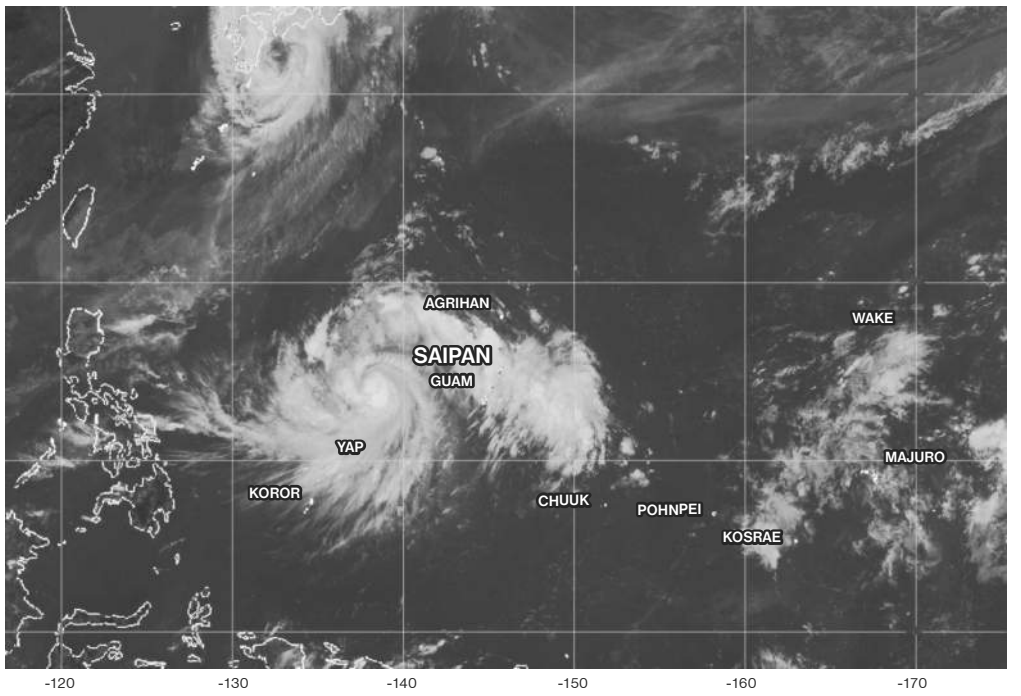
That was familiar, too.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲88° ▼77°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 9:25 AM, SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows Tropical Storm Kong-rey moving away from the Marianas leaving behind mostly cloudy skies and scattered showers within the air flowing into Kong-rey. The buoys reveal east swell of 6 to 7 feet and west swell of 5 to 6 feet. Together these indicate combined seas of 7 to 9 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	87° / 77°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	86° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	61° / 52°
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	75° / 52°
Hong Kong	Sunny	84° / 75°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	87° / 76°
London	Mostly Sunny	55° / 45°
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	77° / 63°
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Melbourne	Showers	61° / 41°
Miami	Thunderstorms	89° / 78°
New York	Mostly Sunny	76° / 63°
Osaka	Rain	75° / 61°
Paris	Partly Cloudy	55° / 43°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	73° / 61°
Rome	Showers	75° / 59°
Salem	Showers	85° / 68°
San Francisco	Showers	64° / 54°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	72° / 54°
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	75° / 64°
Washington, DC	Mostly Sunny	79° / 64°

NMI CRIME STOPPERS
Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
5:50 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.02
12:45 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.71
6:16 PM	LOW TIDE	1.10
11:17 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.73

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:06 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:05 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:05 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:04 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:03 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	11:18 AM	11:01 PM
Tuesday	-	12:17 AM	11:58 PM
Wednesday	-	1:16 PM	-
Thursday	12:58 AM	2:12 PM	-
Friday	1:59 AM	3:07 PM	-

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2018

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA105	4:55am	5:41am	3, 5
UA117	8:45am	9:30am	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:00am	7:45am	Daily
UA104	11:30pm	12:16am+1	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	3:10am	6:10am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	9:05pm	2:10am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

TW9308	1:10am	4:10am	3, 4
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW9308	3:20am	6:30am	2
TW9308	3:25am	6:30am	5
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
7C3401	4:10pm	7:45pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3402	9:30am	3:10pm	Daily
TW9307	6:30pm	12:10am+1	2, 3
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
OZ625	8:40pm	2:10am+1	7
TW9307	9:00pm	2:20am+1	1
TW9307	9:05pm	2:25am+1	4
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:35am	2, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	8:20pm	2:50am+1	1, 5

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:55pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA117/183	8:45am	8:50pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	8:45am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	8:45am	10:40pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA192/174	9:45pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174 via GUM	10:25pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
PR110/UA174	10:55pm	7:45am+1	Daily via GUM
UA184/174	11:30pm	7:45am+1	2, 5 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:40am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UO43	5:30am	8:25am	1
UO43	6:00am	8:40am	1, 3, 5
UA117/159	8:45am	9:50pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	2:10am+1	7 via ICN
HX076	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:25pm	1:25am+1	7
UO42	9:25pm	4:30am+1	2, 4, 6
UA116/174	10:45pm	7:45am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

No change in Oct. fuel adjustment charge

The fuel adjustment charge of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. for the month of October remains at $0.22317 per kilowatt-hour.

Although there has been a slight increase in the Mean of Platts Singapore monthly pricing from June 2018 to October 2018 as notified by Mobil Oil Mariana Islands, Inc., the increase did not equal or exceed a 4.5 percent differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel.

CUC is required, pursuant to an order previously issued by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, to adjust (up or down) the FAC pass-through rate when the MOPS monthly pricing equals or exceeds a 4.5 percent differential of the average per gallon cost of fuel used in the calculation of the current FAC rate.

Accordingly, there will be no adjustment made to the overall CUC kWh rate for the month of October.

The FAC is one of two components that make up the CUC electric kWh rate, which is used to purchase fuel. The second component is the CUC base rate, which is used to fund operations, projects, and debt service. This CUC base rate has not been increased since April 17, 2014.

CUC first instituted LEAC in 2009 to recover fuel and fuel related costs, a system also used by power providers in Guam and the Virgin Islands. In May 2015, the CPUC authorized CUC to change the name of LEAC to FAC to provide customers a more accurate description of the rate. ***(CUC)***

CNMI's BPL rejoins architectural registration board

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In September, the Northern Mariana Islands became the 55th member of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, or NCARB, just as the nonprofit is gearing up to celebrate its centennial year.

The Commonwealth's Board of Professional Licensing—which regulates the practice of architecture, engineering, land surveying, and landscape architecture—is returning to NCARB after previously being a member from 1984-2006.

NCARB's services for licensure candidates are now available to island residents, and NCARB-certified architects can apply for a reciprocal license in the Commonwealth.

Through collaboration with licensing boards across the United States, NCARB shapes the future of architectural regulation. During the organization's annual meetings and forums, member boards such as the Northern Mariana Islands vote on national standards, provide input on programs for licensure and reciprocity, and elect regional and national officers.

"We are delighted to welcome the Northern Mariana Islands back into NCARB's community during our centennial celebration," said NCARB president David L. Hoffman, FAIA, NCARB, Hon. FCARM. "One hundred years after our founding, it's encouraging and motivating that our member boards recognize how NCARB's programs and services support their efforts and continue to benefit the public."

The Northern Mariana Islands board is now also a member of NCARB's Region 6, which is composed of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, and Washington.

"With access to NCARB's programs and services, the Northern Mariana Islands Board of Professional Licensing can more effectively carry out our duty to protect the health, safety, and welfare of our residents," said board executive director Esther S. Fleming.

To learn more about earning a license to practice architecture in the U.S. visit www.ncarb.org/get-licensed.

The NCARB membership is made up of the architectural registration boards of all 50 states as well as those of the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. NCARB assists its member registration boards in carrying out their duties and provides a certification program for individual architects. ***(PR)***

IN APPRECIATION

Tinian Mayor Joey San Nicolas presents a certificate of appreciation the Marine Air Control Group 18 at his office on Tinian last Sept. 26. The mayor expressed his thanks to the U.S. Marines for their relief efforts following Typhoon Mangkhut. Service members from Indo-Pacific Command provided Department of Defense support to the Federal Emergency Management Agency-led recovery efforts to aid local authorities in Guam and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands' following the typhoon, which struck the region Sept. 10-11.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Tel: (670) 664-2374 | Fax: (670) 664-2408 | Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION TO BID
ITB18-GOV-131

Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters for the Kagman Community Center

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) Office are soliciting sealed bids for supply and installation of typhoon shutters for the Kagman Community Center, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

The project package will be available on September 26, 2018 at the Office of Management & Budget, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. **All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.**

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001 and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a pre-bid conference for this project on Wednesday, October 10, 2018, 10:00 am ChST at the Kagman Community Center, Kagman Saipan. Questions concerning this project shall be directed to Antonette DLG. Norita in writing by e-mail: anorita.hm@gmail.com, on or before October 12, 2018 to the Office of Management & Budget, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, or fax (670) 664-2408. All responses to inquiries will be shared with all prospective bidders.

Sealed bids must be marked *ITB18-GOV-131 Supply and Installation of Typhoon Shutters for the Kagman Community Center, Saipan.* For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than **9:00 a.m. ChST October 22, 2018.** Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 9:00 a.m. ChST October 22, 2018 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than October 22, 2018 and the bid documents must be received no later than October 31, 2018. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan at *10:00 a.m. ChST October 31, 2018.* However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be open at *10:00 a.m. ChST October 22, 2018.*

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. Bid security shall be on a bid bond, in cash, by certified check, cashier's check or other form acceptable to the government. A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". If a bid bond is submitted it must be accompanied by an Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC).

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-245. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00.

Prior to the execution of the contract, the selected contractor shall submit:
a) A current license from the bonding company showing that it has authority to issue bond in the CNMI, and
b) A certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments on other bond obligations) exceeds the penal amount of each bond.

A contractor submitting an unacceptable payment or performance bond may be permitted a reasonable time, as determined by the P&S Director, to substitute an acceptable bond prior to executing a contract. Acceptable assets are only:
1) Cash
2) US Government Securities
3) Stocks and Bonds traded on US Security Exchange
4) Real Property owned in fee simple in US; and
5) Irrevocable Letters of Credit

Performance time for completion of this project is One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 120 calendar days, the contract time and will be accessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Herman S. Sablan, Director
CNMI Procurement & Supply

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT PROGRAM, DR-4235-MP
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Tel: (670) 664-2374 | Fax: (670) 664-2408 | Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP18-GOV-132

Supply and Installation of Generator Set, Generator House and Water Pumps – Kagman Community Center

Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the CNMI Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed proposals from qualified contractors to supply and install a generator set complete with an Automatic Transfer Switch, a generator house and water pumps for the Kagman Community Center on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI).

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, currently in effect, and with the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (NMIAC) §70-30-3-725 Gratuities and Kickbacks and §70.30.3-730 Prohibition Against Contingent Fees. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the CNMI.

The project package will be available for pick up beginning September 26, 2018 at the Office of the Governor, Office of Management and Budget, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan. A pre-proposal meeting regarding this project will be held at 10:00 a.m. on October 10, 2018 at the Kagman Community Center, Kagman Saipan.

Questions about this request for proposal shall be addressed to the HMGP Office attn.: Antonette DLG. Norita, in writing via e-mail: anorita.hm@gmail.com or facsimile (670) 664-2408 no later than 4:00 p.m., ChST, October 12, 2018.

The total proposal length shall not exceed 15 pages in length. A contractor that submits a proposal as a prime contractor cannot also submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, as a subcontractor, a company may be included in multiple proposals by different contractors.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1.	Qualifications and experience on similar projects	40%
2.	Work load and resources to accomplish work	10%
3.	Project Approach & Schedule	20%
4.	Cost	30%

Performance time for completion of this project is 240 calendar days upon issuance of notice to proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by 240 calendar days, the contract price and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top 3 ranked contractors. After a selection is made, negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified contractor to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The successful proposers will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **RFP18-GOV-132 Supply and Installation of Generator System, Generator House and Water Pumps – Kagman Community Center.** For proposers within the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply located at the former Emergency Management Office, Building No. 1301, Ascencion Drive, Capitol Hill on Saipan no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, October 24, 2018. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of intent to propose. Notices of intent to propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., ChST, October 24, 2018 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@cnmidof.net

For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and three (3) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, October 24, 2018 and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than November 02, 2018. Failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

BREACH OF ETHICAL STANDARDS

(To be part of Solicitation for Quotes, ITBs and RFPs)

- Gratuities. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefore. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725(a).
- Kickbacks. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor or any person associated therewith as an inducement for the award of subcontractor or order. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-725(b)
- Contingent Fees. It shall be a breach of ethical standards for a person to be retained, or to retain a person, to solicit or secure government contracts upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies for the purpose of securing business. NMIAC Section 70-30.3-730.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfection in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interests of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

Virginia C. Villagomez
Governor's Authorized Representative

Herman S. Sablan
Director of Procurement and Supply

MVA joins JATA Tourism EXPO 2018

The Marianas Visitors Authority joined representatives of over 130 other international countries and regions and 1,441 businesses and organizations at JATA Tourism EXPO 2018, Japan's largest annual travel show, on Sept. 20-23, 2018.

The number of attendees reached a record 207,000 visitors over the four-day period. JATA Tourism EXPO 2018 was held at Tokyo Big Sight and attracted national tourism agencies, airlines, hotels, travel agencies, cruise companies, other tourism professionals, and the traveling public. The MVA joined other exhibitors in providing the latest tourism information to visitors and professional members of the travel trade. This year, about 66,000 tourism professionals joined the event on the travel trade day on Sep. 20-21, while an estimated 74,000 and 67,000 consumers joined the third and fourth days of the event, respectively.

"It is important that The Marianas remains in the mindset of our Japanese travelers," said MVA Deputy Managing Director Judy Torres. "Through our presence at JATA Tourism Expo this year, we used video presentation, cultural activities, information distribution, and personal interaction to highlight the many outstanding experiences offered in Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. We want to let Japanese travelers know that we have much to offer as a destination, and that they are always welcome in The Marianas."

Marianas Visitors Authority deputy managing director Judy Torres, center in blue, and the Marianas delegation to JATA Travel Expo 2018 from Sept. 20-24, 2018, in Tokyo, Japan. MVA

3D trick art gives the illusion of parasailing over Managaha at the Marianas Visitors Authority's booth to JATA Travel Expo 2018 from Sept. 20-24, 2018, in Tokyo, Japan. MVA

Marianas-chan dances at the Marianas Visitors Authority's booth to JATA Travel Expo 2018 from Sept. 20-24, 2018, in Tokyo, Japan. MVA

Art titled "A Day in The Marianas" by Tomio and "Marianasgenic Spots" featured in the design of the MVA booth, while a 3D trick art photo backdrop gave the illusion of parasailing over Managaha. A 150-in. screen played The Marianas 30 Treasures video and the official MVA image song "Lookin' for" by popular hip-hop group Doberman Infinity.

At the MVA booth, representatives of the Marianas distributed promotional information, answered questions, and distributed giveaways. Miss Marianas 2018 Celine Cabrera greeted guests, Marianas-chan danced to *Jet Plane*, and both assisted with audience quizzes. Pickles the Frog, a character that introduced its Marianas version last year, participated in guest photo opportunities with Miss Marianas and Marianas-chan.

PDI led a hands-on workshop to teach *mwar*-making (flower head lei) and coconut frond weaving. Guests also had the opportunity to sample Marianas coffee and Marianas Tropical Breeze drinks.

The event is organized by Japan Travel and Tourism Association and Japan Association of Travel Agents. JATA Tourism EXPO is internationally recognized as one of the largest travel events in the world and presents Japan as a tourism nation to the world, further developing outbound, inbound and domestic travel by bringing together the combined strengths of not only the tourism industry, but all industries in Japan and its local communities. JATA Tourism EXPO provides opportunities for travel professionals to exchange travel information and conduct effective business meetings, while inspiring consumers through the power of travel. ***(MVA)***

Miss Marianas Celine Cabrera, Pickles the Frog, Marianas-chan, and a young visitor at the Marianas Visitors Authority's booth to JATA Travel Expo 2018 from Sept. 20-24, 2018, in Tokyo, Japan. MVA

PDI managing director Gordon Marciano, front left, and team teach coconut frond weaving at the Marianas Visitors Authority's booth to JATA Travel Expo 2018 from Sept. 20-24, 2018, in Tokyo, Japan. MVA

YOUTH TAKEOVER DAY

As part of Youth Takeover Day, high school students visit the Marianas Visitors Authority on Sept. 27, 2018, in San Jose, Saipan. Pictured from left are Community Projects manager Martin Duenas, administrative officer III Carol Chargualaf, Community Projects Development manager Tatiana Babauta, Christine Lorenzo of Marianas High, Riley Buenaventura of Mt. Carmel School, Michaela Mole of Kagman High School, managing director Christopher A. Concepcion, and special assistant to the managing director Ashley Sikayun. MVA

As part of Youth Takeover Day, Christine Quebral of Marianas High School, fourth left, and Kristine Palmes of Kagman High School, sixth left, join the Marianas Tourism Education Council board meeting on Sept. 27, 2018, at the Marianas Visitors Authority's office in San Jose, Saipan. Pictured from left are board members Gordon Marciano, Rose Ada-Hocog, and Martin Duenas, Quebral, board vice chairwoman Wendi Herring, Palmes, board member larry Lee, board chairwoman Vicky Benavente, Board Member Catherine Perry, and MVA Community Projects coordinator Demalynn Pagarao. MVA

Business

Facebook says 50M user accounts affected by security breach

NEW YORK (AP)—Facebook reported a major security breach in which 50 million user accounts were accessed by unknown attackers.

The attackers gained the ability to "seize control" of those user accounts, Facebook said, by stealing digital keys the company uses to keep users logged in. They could do so by exploiting three distinct bugs in Facebook's code.

The company said it has fixed the bugs and logged out the 50 million breached users—plus another 40 million who were vulnerable to the attack—in order to reset those digital keys. Users don't need to change their Facebook passwords, it said.

Facebook said it doesn't know who was behind the attacks or where they're based. In a call with reporters on Friday, CEO Mark Zuckerberg—whose own account was compromised—said that attackers would have had the ability to view private messages or post on someone's account, but there's no sign that they did.

"We do not yet know if any of the accounts were actually misused," Zuckerberg said.

The hack is the latest setback for Facebook during a tumultuous year of security problems and privacy issues . So far, though, none of these issues have significantly shaken the confidence of the company's 2 billion global users.

This latest hack involved bugs in Facebook's "View As" feature, which lets people see how their profiles appear to others. The attackers used that vulnerability to steal the digital keys, known as "access tokens," from the accounts of people whose profiles were searched for using the "View As" feature. The attack then moved along from one user's Facebook friend to another. Possession of those tokens would allow attackers to control those accounts.

One of the bugs was more than a year old and affected how the "View As" feature interacted with Facebook's video uploading feature for posting "happy birthday" messages, said Guy Rosen, Facebook's vice president of product management. But it wasn't until mid-September that Facebook noticed an uptick in unusual activity, and not until this week that it learned of the attack, Rosen said.

"We haven't yet been able to determine if there was specific targeting" of particular accounts, Rosen said in a call with reporters. "It does seem broad. And we don't yet know who was behind these attacks and where they might be based."

AP

Facebook discovered a security weakness that could let attackers hijack people's accounts. The vulnerability has been fixed, but there are precautions to take.

Neither passwords nor credit card data was stolen, Rosen said. He said the company has alerted the FBI and regulators in the United States and Europe.

Jake Williams, a security expert at Rendition Infosec, said he is concerned that the hack could have affected third party applications.

Williams noted that the company's "Facebook Login" feature lets users log into other apps and websites with their Facebook credentials. "These access tokens that were stolen show when a user is logged into Facebook and that may be enough to access a user's account on a third party site," he said.

Facebook confirmed late Friday that third party apps, as well as its own Instagram app, could have been affected.

"The vulnerability was on Facebook, but these access tokens enabled someone to use the account as if they were the account-holder themselves," Rosen said.

News broke early this year that a data analytics firm once employed by the Trump campaign, Cambridge Analytica, had improperly gained access to personal data from millions of user profiles. Then a congressional investigation found that agents from Russia and other countries have been posting fake political ads since at least 2016. In April, Zuckerberg appeared at a congressional hearing focused on Facebook's privacy practices.

The Facebook bug is reminiscent of a much larger attack on Yahoo in which attackers compromised 3 billion accounts—enough for half of the world's entire population. In the case of Yahoo, information stolen included names, email addresses, phone numbers, birthdates and security questions and answers. It was among a series of Yahoo hacks over several years.

U.S. prosecutors later blamed Russian agents for using the information they stole from Yahoo to spy on Russian journalists, U.S. and Russian government officials and employees of financial services and other private businesses.

In Facebook's case, it may be too early to know how sophisticated the attackers were and if they were connected to a nation state, said Thomas Rid, a professor at the Johns Hopkins University. Rid said it could also be spammers or criminals.

"Nothing we've seen here is so sophisticated that it requires a state actor," Rid said. "Fifty million random Facebook accounts are not interesting for any intelligence agency."

Musk out as Tesla chair, remains CEO in $40M SEC settlement

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Tesla and its CEO Elon Musk have agreed to pay a total of $40 million and make a series of concessions to settle a government lawsuit alleging Musk duped investors with misleading statements about a proposed buyout of the company.

The settlement with the Securities and Exchange Commission allows Musk to remain CEO of the electric car company but requires him to relinquish his role as chairman for at least three years.

Tesla must hire an independent chairman to oversee the company, something that should please a number of shareholders who have criticized Tesla's board for being too beholden to Musk.

The deal was announced Saturday, just two days after SEC filed its case seeking to oust Musk as CEO.

Musk, who has an estimated $20 billion fortune, and Tesla, a company that ended June with $2.2 billion in cash, each are paying $20 million to resolve the case, which stemmed from a tweet Musk sent on Aug. 7 indicating he had the financing in place to take Tesla private at a price of $420 per share.

"A reckless tweet cost a lot of money—the $20-million tweet," said Michelle Krebs, executive analyst at Autotrader.

The deal could remove one cloud that hangs over Tesla. Investors fretted about the company's ability to cope without Musk, a charismatic entrepreneur whose penchant for coming up with revolutionary ideas has drawn comparisons to one of Silicon Valley's most revered visionaries, Apple co-founder Steve Jobs.

Tesla's stock plummeted 14 percent Friday after the SEC filed its lawsuit, erasing more than $7 billion in shareholder wealth. Many analysts predicted the shares were bound to fall even further if Musk had been forced to step down. Tesla's stock has dropped 30 percent since Aug. 7, closing Friday at $264.77.

The steep downturn in Tesla's market value may have influenced Musk to have an apparent change of heart and negotiate a settlement. Musk had rejected a similar settlement offer before the SEC sued Thursday, maintaining he had done nothing wrong when he posted a tweet declaring that he had secured the financing to lead a buyout of Tesla.

The SEC alleged Musk wasn't close to locking up the estimated $25 billion to $50 billion needed to pull off the buyout.

Musk and Tesla reached their settlement without admitting to or denying the SEC's allegations.

The resolution "is in the best interests of our markets and our investors, including the shareholders of Tesla," SEC Chairman Jay Clayton said in a statement.

A Tesla spokeswoman said the company and Musk had no comment Saturday.

Besides paying a fine and stripping Musk of his chairman's title, Tesla also must appoint two more directors who have no ties to the company or its management. Musk will be allowed to remain on the board.

China manufacturing weakens amid US tariff battle

BEIJING (AP)—China's export orders shrank in September as a tariff battle with Washington over technology escalated, adding to downward pressure on the world's No. 2 economy, two surveys showed Sunday.

The reports add to signs Chinese trade, which had held up despite U.S. President Donald Trump's tariff hikes, might be weakening. That adds to pressure on an economy that already was forecast to cool due to slowing global consumer demand and lending controls imposed to rein in a debt boom.

The official China Federation of Logistics & Purchasing's monthly measure of new export orders fell to 48 from August's 49.4 on a 100-point scale on which numbers below 50 show activity shrinking.

A separate index by a business magazine, Caixin, showed new export orders fell at the fastest rate in more than two years. The magazine said companies blamed "trade frictions" and tariffs.

Overall, the federation's monthly purchasing managers index showed manufacturing activity decelerated to 50.8 from August's 51.3. Caixin said its index fell to 50 from 50.6.

"Downward pressure on China's economy was significant," economist Zhengsheng Zhong said in Caixin's report.

The resiliency of China's $12 trillion-a-year economy until now has allowed President Xi Jinping's government to reject pressure for changes in initiatives such as "Made in China 2025" that call for state-led creation of champions in robotics and other technologies.

Washington, Europe and other trading partners say those violate Beijing's market-opening obligations.

The International Monetary Fund and other forecasters expect this year's economic growth to fall to about 6.5 percent from 2017's 6.8 percent. But that slowdown is due mostly to the ruling Communist Party's long-term efforts to steer China to self-sustaining growth based on consumer spending instead of trade and investment.

Last week, Trump stepped up pressure by raising tariffs on $200 billion of Chinese goods. Beijing retaliated with penalties on $60 billion of American imports. Both sides already had raised duties on $50 billion of each other's goods.

The two sides have announced no plans for negotiations. China accused Trump in a report last week of bullying other countries. A deputy commerce minister said negotiations were impossible while Washington "holds a knife" of tariff hikes to Beijing's throat.

With no settlement in sight, forecasters say the conflict could trim global economic growth by 0.5 percent through 2020.

Sunday's reports gave no details on September orders from the United States, China's biggest national export market.

Sales to the United States have held up so far, rising by more than 13 percent in August. But analysts said that strength might have been due partly to Chinese suppliers rushing to beat increases in import taxes.

American officials complain Beijing steals or pressures companies to hand over technology. They worry Chinese technology initiatives might erode U.S. industrial leadership.

Communist leaders have tried to stick to long-term reform plans the ruling party says will make the state-dominated economy more competitive and productive.

Nation

Trump says FBI has 'free rein' in Kavanaugh investigation

WASHINGTON (AP)—The woman who has accused Supreme Court nominee Brett Kavanaugh of sexual misconduct when they were students at Yale has agreed to cooperate with an FBI investigation, her lawyer said.

Deborah Ramirez's lawyer, John Clune, said Saturday that agents want to interview Ramirez, who said Kavanaugh exposed himself to her at a party in the early 1980s. Two other women have accused the appeals court judge of sexual misconduct.

Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court, once seen as assured, became uncertain after the allegations and then dramatic Senate testimony Thursday by Christine Blasey Ford, who alleges that Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her at a party when they were teenagers. The Senate Judiciary Committee voted in favor of Kavanaugh along party lines Friday.

While the precise scope of the reopened background investigation of Kavanaugh remained unclear, President Donald Trump told reporters Saturday that "the FBI, as you know, is all over talking to everybody" and said "this could be a blessing in disguise."

"They have free rein. They're going to do whatever they have to do, whatever it is they do. They'll be doing things that we have never even thought of," Trump said at the White House. "And hopefully at the conclusion everything will be fine."

The president revisited the question of the scope of the FBI's probe in a late-night tweet Saturday, writing in part, "I want them to interview whoever they deem appropriate, at their discretion."

In a separate action involving the FBI, Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, asked the Justice Department and the FBI to open a criminal investigation into "apparent false statements" that were made to committee investigators alleging sexual misconduct by Kavanaugh in 1985.

A constituent contacted the office of Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., alleging that Kavanaugh had sexually assaulted an acquaintance on a boat in Newport, Rhode Island, in 1985, but Grassley said the person later "'recanted' and apologized for the allegation via social media.

Trump ordered the FBI on Friday to reopen Kavanaugh's background investigation after several women accused Kavanaugh of sexual misconduct. Kavanaugh has denied the allegations.

Senate leaders agreed to delay a final vote on Kavanaugh's nomination to allow for a one-week FBI investigation. The Judiciary Committee has said the probe should be limited to "current credible allegations" against Kavanaugh and be finished by next Friday.

Leaving the hearing this past Friday, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., said it was his understanding there would be an FBI investigation of "the outstanding allegations, the three of them," but Republicans have not said whether that was their understanding as well.

The FBI conducts background checks for federal nominees, but the agency does not make judgments on the credibility or significance of allegations. The investigators will compile information about Kavanaugh's past and provide their findings to the White House and include the information in Kavanaugh's background file, which is available to senators.

Kavanaugh and Ford, who says Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her when both were teenagers, testified publicly before the Judiciary Committee on Thursday.

Kavanaugh's high school friend Mark Judge, who Ford says was in the room when a drunken Kavanaugh sexually assaulted her, said that he will cooperate with any law enforcement agency that will "confidentially investigate" sexual misconduct allegations against him and Kavanaugh. Judge has also denied misconduct allegations.

AP

FBI contacts Kavanaugh's Yale classmate Deborah Ramirez in its investigation.

Las Vegas shooting survivor, wife learning to live with fear

BONNEY LAKE, Wash. (AP)—Every time Chris Gilman leaves her home at the foot of Washington's Mount Rainier, she fights the gnawing urge to turn around and check that someone isn't about to shoot her.

Sometimes she wins the battle. Sometimes she loses.

In the year since the 48-year-old was nearly killed in the worst mass shooting in modern U.S. history, Gilman has had to get used to living with fear: She has nightmares about family members getting shot, she only sits in spots in restaurants where she can see the exits, and she has to mentally prepare herself for movies that might include rapid gunfire.

And then there are crowds, the toughest new obstacle Gilman must brave since surviving the Oct. 1, 2017, massacre in Las Vegas, which killed 58 people and wounded hundreds of others. Gilman was shot in the back; the bullet punctured a lung, lacerated her spleen and a kidney, broke two ribs and lodged 2 millimeters from her spinal cord.

"There are times I'm at the grocery store and I feel that desire to turn around and look and see who's behind me," Gilman said. "I try to fight it, to just keep walking, and I think, 'You're at the grocery store. There's no one behind you with a gun.' But I always feel like I'm looking behind me."

That feeling turned into panic at one of Gilman's first concerts since the shooting.

Gilman and her wife of 18 years, Aliza Correa, were with friends at Seattle's KeyArena following an Aug. 11 concert when the surge of people around them became overwhelming.

"All of a sudden I felt like the Tasmanian devil, where I was spinning in circles trying not to have anybody behind me," Gilman said. "I tensed up and thought, 'Here it comes, here it comes, I know I'm going to get shot. Who's behind me, who's behind me?' In your mind you know it's crazy to think that way, but when the visions come up it's hard to control."

Gilman grabbed her wife's hand and told her she was freaking out, "but it was too late."

"I was hyperventilating, and I ended up laying on the ground," said Gilman.

Correa is struggling with her own trauma. She was at the Route 91 Harvest Festival in Vegas with Gilman when a lone gunman busted out the windows of his 32nd-floor hotel room and launched an 11-minute barraged of gunfire on the crowd below.

The women were helping a wounded friend when the bullet tore through Gilman.

Gilman laid down and told Correa to save herself. Correa refused to leave her side.

"I said, 'If you die, I die, so if you don't want me to die, you have to get up," Correa said, recounting how she rolled Gilman over so her injured wife could Army-crawl for cover under some bleachers.

From there, Gilman said she knew she couldn't go any farther. That's when two married off-duty Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies, Alex and Wanda Valiente, came upon the couple.

"My wife and I are going to get you out," Alex Valiente told Gilman. "I just need you to help us. I just need you to get up."

Overcome with exhaustion and pain, Gilman told everyone: "Just leave me."

The Valientes and Correa wouldn't budge.

"Get up," Alex Valiente told Gilman. "You're not going to die. You're going to get up."

Gilman did just that, and the Valientes helped carry her to a car as bullets continued flying around them. Correa tried to clear a path for them amid a sea of wounded people, bodies and chaos.

They made it. Out of the chaos, to the hospital and eventually, back home to the idyllic community of Bonney Lake, an hour southeast of Seattle. Gilman and Correa live in a recently developed, well-kept and tight-knit community that borders between suburban and rural, offering crisp mountain air and lots of grassy open spaces.

But coming home was just the beginning.

ACROSS THE NATION

Thousands in Central Park panic after barrier collapse

NEW YORK (AP)—Fearing possible gunshots, it took only the collapse of a police barrier at a politically charged New York celebrity music show Saturday to send thousands of spectators fleeing in panic. About 60,000 people had filled the park's Great Lawn for the eight-hour Global Citizen Festival. They listened to big-name personalities from Democratic New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Republican Sen. Jeff Flake to Janet Jackson and John Legend who all urged spectators to get involved in the nation's troubled politics. Suddenly, just before 8 p.m., the police barrier that was meant to keep the crowd in check toppled over, releasing a clanging sound that terrified many spectators. Authorities quickly assured the crowd they were safe, and that no shots had been fired. And Coldplay leader Chris Martin told spectators that "nobody is trying to hurt anyone," eliciting cheers from the audience. "There's no need to run fast. There's no need to push people out of the way."

Man accused of killing, dismembering mother pleads guilty

HONOLULU (AP)—A man accused of killing and dismembering his mother in their Waikiki apartment pleaded guilty. Yu Wei Gong pleaded guilty to manslaughter Friday after originally being charged with second-degree murder. The lower charge carries a maximum penalty of 20 years in prison. Gong also pleaded guilty to second-degree identity theft and abuse of a corpse. Gong admitted to killing his mother, Liu Yun Gong, in September 2016, according to court documents. Yu Wei Gong said he accidentally killed her during an argument. When officers asked about his mother's whereabouts after searching the unit, Yu Wei Gong said she was "in the fridge," according to the police complaint. An officer searcher the freezer and found human remains, including two arms with hands and a decapitated head, in numerous plastic trash bags, the complaint said.

Police investigating thoroughbred shooting in Kentucky

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP)—Police in the heart of Kentucky's horse farm country are investigating after a thoroughbred was found shot with a rifle. The Lexington Herald-Leader reports the horse was found shot at Springhouse Farm near Lexington. The horse was euthanized Friday morning. Jessamine County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Allen Peel said the shooting happened sometime between 11 p.m. Thursday and 2 a.m. Friday. Authorities found multiple shell casings near where the horse was shot. The sheriff's office has no suspects and has asked anyone with information to contact them.

Asia

Indonesia tsunami toll tops 800 amid search for survivors

PALU, Indonesia (AP)—Rescuers in Indonesia were scrambling Sunday to reach trapped victims screaming for help from collapsed buildings, while looters risked entering an unstable shopping mall to grab whatever they could find after a massive earthquake spawned a tsunami that left more than 800 dead.

People could still be heard calling out from the eight-story Roa-Roa Hotel which toppled as Friday's twin disasters swept through the hard-hit city of Palu on the island of Sulawesi, said Muhammad Syaugi, the head of Indonesia's search and rescue agency.

"I can still hear the voices of the survivors screaming for help while inspecting the compound," he told local online news portal Detik.com, adding there could be 50 people trapped inside.

Disaster agency spokesman Sutopo Purwo Nugroho told a news conference Sunday that the death toll had more than doubled to 832, with nearly all of those killed in Palu. He said there were still not comprehensive reports about casualties in surrounding coastal areas.

"The death is believed to be still increasing since many bodies were still under the wreckage, while many have not been reached," he said.

Aid and supplies were being sent in via military and commercial aircraft, including helicopters, to reach badly affected areas.

The nearby cities of Donggala, the site closest to the earthquake's epicenter, and Mamuju were also ravaged, but little information was available due to damaged roads and disrupted telecommunications. Footage from MetroTV on Sunday showed images of destroyed houses in Donggala and areas that were once land now inundated with water. Aerial video also showed the battered coastline surrounding Palu.

AP

Indonesian men walk past the wreckage of a car following earthquakes and a tsunami in Palu, Central Sulawesi, Indonesia, Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018.

Looters were stealing Sunday from a badly damaged mall in Palu that was not being guarded. They did not appear to be concerned about their safety, despite ongoing aftershocks and the structure's questionable stability. Residents were also seen returning to their destroyed homes, picking through waterlogged belongings, trying to salvage anything they could find.

Nugroho said "tens to hundreds" of people were taking part in a beach festival in Palu when the tsunami struck at dusk on Friday. Their fate was unknown.

Hundreds of people were injured and hospitals, damaged by the magnitude 7.5 quake, were overwhelmed.

Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo was set to visit the area later Sunday.

Some of the injured, including Dwi Haris, who suffered a broken back and shoulder, rested outside Palu's Army Hospital, where patients were being treated outdoors due to continuing strong aftershocks. Tears filled his eyes as he recounted feeling the violent earthquake shake the fifth-floor hotel room he shared with his wife and daughter.

"There was no time to save ourselves. I was squeezed into the ruins of the wall, I think," said Haris, adding that his family was in town for a wedding. "I heard my wife cry for help, but then silence. I don't know what happened to her and my child. I hope they are safe."

Critics say Duterte admitted illegal killings, aides say no

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Rights activists said Friday that the Philippine president acknowledged in a speech that he permitted extrajudicial killings in his brutal drug war, but his aides argued it was a misunderstanding and stressed his repeated past denials.

Human Rights Watch said President Rodrigo Duterte's "admission should erase any doubt about the culpability of the president" and prod the International Criminal Court to hasten a review of a complaint against him for mass murder.

"Truly, a fish is caught by its mouth and a foul man by his deeds," opposition Sen. Risa Hontiveros said. She added that the alleged admission "will serve to contribute in moving forward national and international efforts to exact accountability from the president and his cohorts."

In a speech to government executives on Thursday, Duterte said he had told the military they could remove him if they were unsatisfied with his rule, and asked what "sins" he had committed. "Did I steal even a peso?" he said. "My only sin is the extrajudicial killings."

Presidential legal counsel Salvador Panelo said Duterte meant drug killings are the only accusation of wrongdoing brought against him. Panelo suggested that the president may not have expressed himself clearly in Tagalog, the national language, and noted that he had repeatedly denied condoning unlawful killings by law enforcers in the past.

Duterte has said he sometimes finds it difficult to speak in Tagalog because he's more proficient in Bisaya, the widely spoken dialect in the south, where he served as a longtime mayor before becoming president in 2016.

Duterte has denied allowing extrajudicial killings, although he has repeatedly and publicly threatened drug suspects with death.

In the same speech on Thursday, Duterte, a former government prosecutor, repeated his defense against allegations that he was involved in the killings of drug suspects in reported clashes with police.

"Four thousand deaths. When? Where? How? What did I use? Nothing," he said, adding that most drug suspects died because they fought back and endangered the lives of police officers.

Duterte acknowledged that some policemen are involved in the drug trade. "And they are the ones killing, when you could not remit (the money) to them," he said.

Police say at least 4,854 suspects have been killed in the anti-drug campaign since Duterte took office, with more than 155,000 others arrested in the unprecedented crackdown that has alarmed Western governments and U.N. groups. Human rights organizations have cited much higher death tolls.

N. Korea FM: Peace possible, but only if US ends hostility

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Calling for more trust, North Korea's foreign minister urged the United States on Saturday to keep moving past what he called seven decades of entrenched hostility if Washington wants to restart stalled negotiations meant to rid Pyongyang of its nuclear bombs.

Boiling the rivals' diplomatic standoff down to the North's deepening feeling of mistrust, Ri Yong Ho sought to lay out a vision of peace on the troubled Korean Peninsula—provided the North gets what it wants from the United States.

Ri, standing at a podium at the United Nations General Assembly in New York, said North Korea is ready to implement the points that his leader, Kim Jong Un, and U.S. President Donald Trump agreed to in June during a summit in Singapore.

But his comments were infused with what came across as impatience at the slow pace of progress in a process the world hopes will cause Pyongyang to abandon an arsenal of nuclear-tipped missiles that aims to accurately target the entire U.S. mainland.

In recent weeks, Kim Jong Un has said he would permanently dismantle North Korea's main nuclear complex, but only if the United States takes unspecified corresponding measures. Kim has also promised to accept international inspectors to monitor the closing of a key missile test site and launch pad.

The North, however, doesn't "see any corresponding response" from Washington. On the contrary, Ri said, the United States is increasing pressure and sanctions.

"The perception that sanctions can bring us on our knees is a pipe dream of the people who are ignorant of us," Ri said, adding that the continued sanctions are "deepening our mistrust" and deadlocking the current diplomacy.

"Without any trust in the U.S., there will be no confidence in our national security," he said, "and under such circumstances there is no way we will unilaterally disarm ourselves first."

There was no immediate response from Washington. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said last week he would return to Pyongyang to set up a sequel to the Singapore meeting between Kim and Trump.

Despite the muscular tone, Ri's high-profile speech was downright mild and balanced compared to the florid vows of nuclear strikes and claims of U.S. perfidiousness that have been typical fare from the country's propaganda services.

This was decidedly so during an exchange of threats between Washington and Pyongyang that accompanied a run of increasingly powerful weapons tests last year that put the North on the brink of its claim to be a full-fledged nuclear power, and had some fearing war.

The tenor of Ri's comments was clearly meant to push a wary United States to agree to a declaration formally ending the Korean War, which ended with a ceasefire, not a peace treaty.

Washington is wary of endorsing such a declaration, which could lead to a formal peace treaty. Pyongyang demands the removal of the 28,500 U.S. troops stationed in the South to deter North Korean military adventurism. The United States wants the North first to provide a full account of the components of its nuclear program.

Although not legally binding, the North might also see an end-of-war declaration as a way to create political momentum that would steer discussions toward diplomatic recognition, economic benefits and security concessions.

Once the Singapore agreements are implemented, the "current trend toward detente will turn into durable peace and the complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula will also be achieved," Ri said. "The Korean Peninsula, the hottest spot in the globe, will become the cradle of peace and prosperity."

World

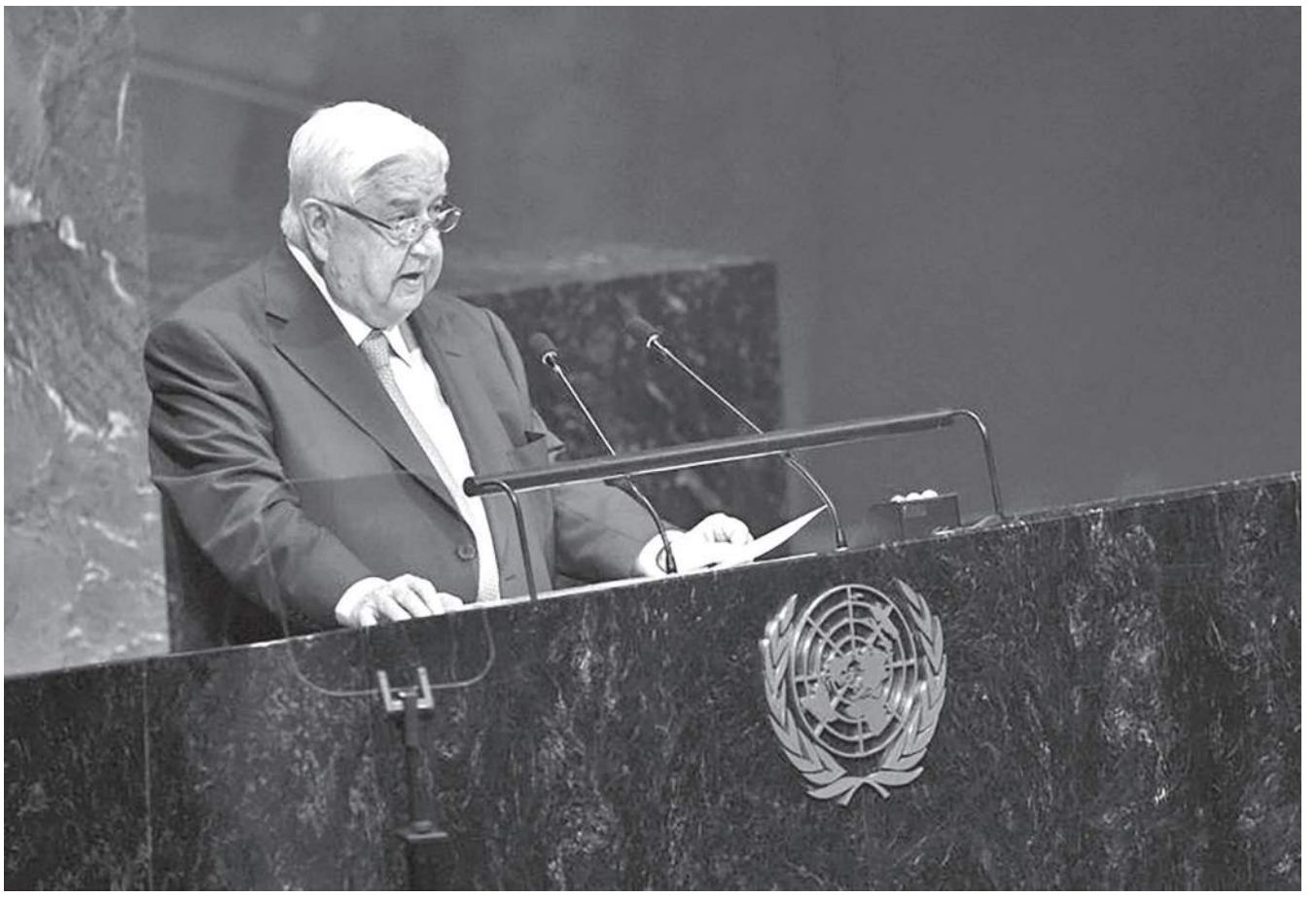
Syria FM: Victory over 'terrorism' is near, US must leave

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—Declaring that victory over "terrorism" is almost at hand after more than seven years of civil war, Syria's foreign minister took to the world stage Saturday and demanded that "occupation" forces from the U.S., France and Turkey leave the country immediately.

Walid al-Moallem told the General Assembly's high-level meeting that the situation on the ground "is more stable and secure thanks to combatting terrorism" and "all conditions are now present for the voluntary return of refugees."

Syrian government forces, backed by Russia and Iran, have retaken most of the territory rebels seized during the war that has killed over 400,000 people and driven millions from their homes. President Bashar Assad's government refers to all armed opposition and rebel groups fighting Syrian forces as "terrorists," not just Islamic State or al-Qaida militants.

Last week, Russia and Turkey agreed to a deal which stopped an imminent Syrian government offensive to retake the last major rebel stronghold in the northern province of Idlib. It calls for setting up a demilitarized zone around Idlib to separate government forces from rebels, including those from the al-Qaida-linked group formerly known as the Nusra Front.



AP

Syrian Deputy Prime Minister Walid al-Moallem addresses the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly, Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018 at U.N. headquarters.

"We hope that when the agreement is implemented, the Nusra Front and other terrorists will be eradicated, thus eliminating the last remnants of terrorism in Syria," al-Moallem said.

He offered no hard evidence to back up his assertions that victory was near. There was no response to emails seeking comment from the U.S., France and Turkey.

Al-Moallem's upbeat speech praised the army and the Syrian people for remaining "defiant" during the war, "fully convinced that this was a battle for their existence." He bashed Western and other countries supporting the opposition, alluding to their failed effort to install a transition government and get rid of Assad.

"To the disappointment of some, here we are today more than seven years into this dirty war against my country, announcing to the world that the situation on the ground has become more secure and stable, and that our battle against terrorism is almost over," al-Moallem said.

"It is high time for all those detached from reality to wake up, let go of their fantasies, and come to their senses, see matters realistically," he said. "They must realize they will not achieve politically what they failed to achieve by force."

While Turkey confronts the difficult task of trying to separate the forces in Idlib, the U.N. envoy for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, is trying to bring the warring parties together to move forward on long-stalled political talks aimed at ending the war.

De Mistura is hoping to convene the first meeting of a committee to reform the country's constitution, a key step in a 2012 roadmap adopted by world powers that is to culminate with elections and the formation of a new government. He told The Associated Press this week that October will be crucial.

Al-Moallem signaled difficulties ahead in negotiations, indicating in his speech that Syria doesn't want a new constitution. "We stress that the mandate of the committee is limited to reviewing the articles of the current constitution," the Syrian minister said.

He added that Syria "will not accept any proposal that constitutes an interference in internal affairs of Syria, or leads to such interference."

Catalan separatists clash with police as tensions mount

BARCELONA, Spain (AP)—Clashes between Catalan separatists and police in Barcelona left 14 people injured and led to six arrests Saturday as tensions boiled over days before the anniversary of the Spanish region's illegal referendum on secession, which ended in violent raids by security forces.

Separatists tossed and sprayed colored powder at police officers, filling the air with a thick rainbow cloud and covering anti-riot shields and police vans. Some protestors threw eggs and other objects and engaged with the police line, which used batons to keep them back.

The clashes erupted after local Catalan police intervened to form a barrier when a separatist threw purple paint on a man who was part of another march of people in support of Spanish police demanding a pay raise. Officers used batons to keep the opposing groups apart.

There were more confrontations as the separatists tried to enter Barcelona's main city square where 3,000 people supporting Spanish police had ended their march.

Separatists shouted "Get out of here, fascists!" and "Independence!" at the Spanish police supporters, who responded by shouting "We will be victorious!" and "Our cause is just!"

Barcelona Mayor Ada Colau pleaded for peace when the first scuffles broke out.

"I make a call for calm," Colau told Catalunya Radio. "This city has always defended that everyone can exercise their rights to free speech."

The Catalan police told The Associated Press that the six arrests were made on charges of aggressions against police officers. The investigation was continuing.

One police officer was hurt, although it was not immediately clear if the officer was among the 14 people reported by health authorities as needing medical treatment. Three were taken to hospital while the others were attended to on the street.

There were ugly episodes between members of the opposing groups.

An AP photographer saw a group of several people who had come to support the Spanish police being chased by a mob of around 100 separatists, some of whom tried to kick and trip the supporters before they could reach the safety of local police. Separately, a woman punched a man who supports Catalan secession in the face before police could separate them.

The pro-police march had originally planned to end in another square home to the regional and municipal government seats but 6,000 separatists, according to local police, gathered in the square to force regional authorities to alter the march's route. Some separatists arrived the night before and camped out in the square.

"The separatists are kicking us out," said national police officer Ibon Dominguez, who attended the march. "They are kicking the national police and Guardia Civil out of the streets of our own country."

The police march was organized by the police association JUSAPOL, which wants Spain's two nationwide police forces, the national police and Civil Guard, to be paid as much as Catalonia's regional police.

Tens of thousands say 'Not him' to leading Brazil candidate

SAO PAULO (AP)—Tens of thousands of Brazilians took to the streets Saturday in protest against the presidential front-runner, a far-right congressman whose campaign has exposed and deepened divisions in Latin America's largest country.

The protests came the same day that Jair Bolsonaro was discharged from a Sao Paulo hospital where he received treatment after being stabbed during a campaign rally on Sept. 6. On Saturday evening, after flying home to Rio, he tweeted that there was "no better feeling" than to be close to his family.

In Sao Paulo, Rio de Janeiro and Brasilia, people flooded avenues and squares to sing, dance and shout "Not him!" — the rallying cry of groups who are trying to prevent Bolsonaro from taking office in October elections.

"We're saying to those people who are undecided: Not him," said Selia Figueiredo, a 43-year-old banker in Sao Paulo, who said she worried for her rights as a gay woman if Bolsonaro were to win. They can vote "for anyone else, but not him."

In the heart of Sao Paulo, Brazil's largest city, leftist presidential candidate Guilherme Boulos and his running mate Sonia Guajajara led the march, while people beat drums and waved gay pride flags and banners that denounced Bolsonaro, who is known for offensive comments about gays, women and black people.

In downtown Rio de Janeiro, a crowd that was heavily women shouted: "Sexists and fascists won't advance!"

Other smaller rallies were held in cities around Brazil, including some in support of the candidate.

Bolsonaro's candidacy has attracted international attention as an example of the trend in many countries toward populism and extremes in politics, and small protests were held against him in London, Lisbon, Berlin and Paris.

Bolsonaro is currently leading polls with around 28 percent of support among voters polled, but he also has the highest rejection rate of any candidate. That could become especially important if no one wins the majority of votes on Oct. 7, and the election is decided in a second round. Polls then show him losing in most scenarios. Bolsonaro has said he will accept nothing less than victory and suggested his opponents will commit fraud to defeat him.

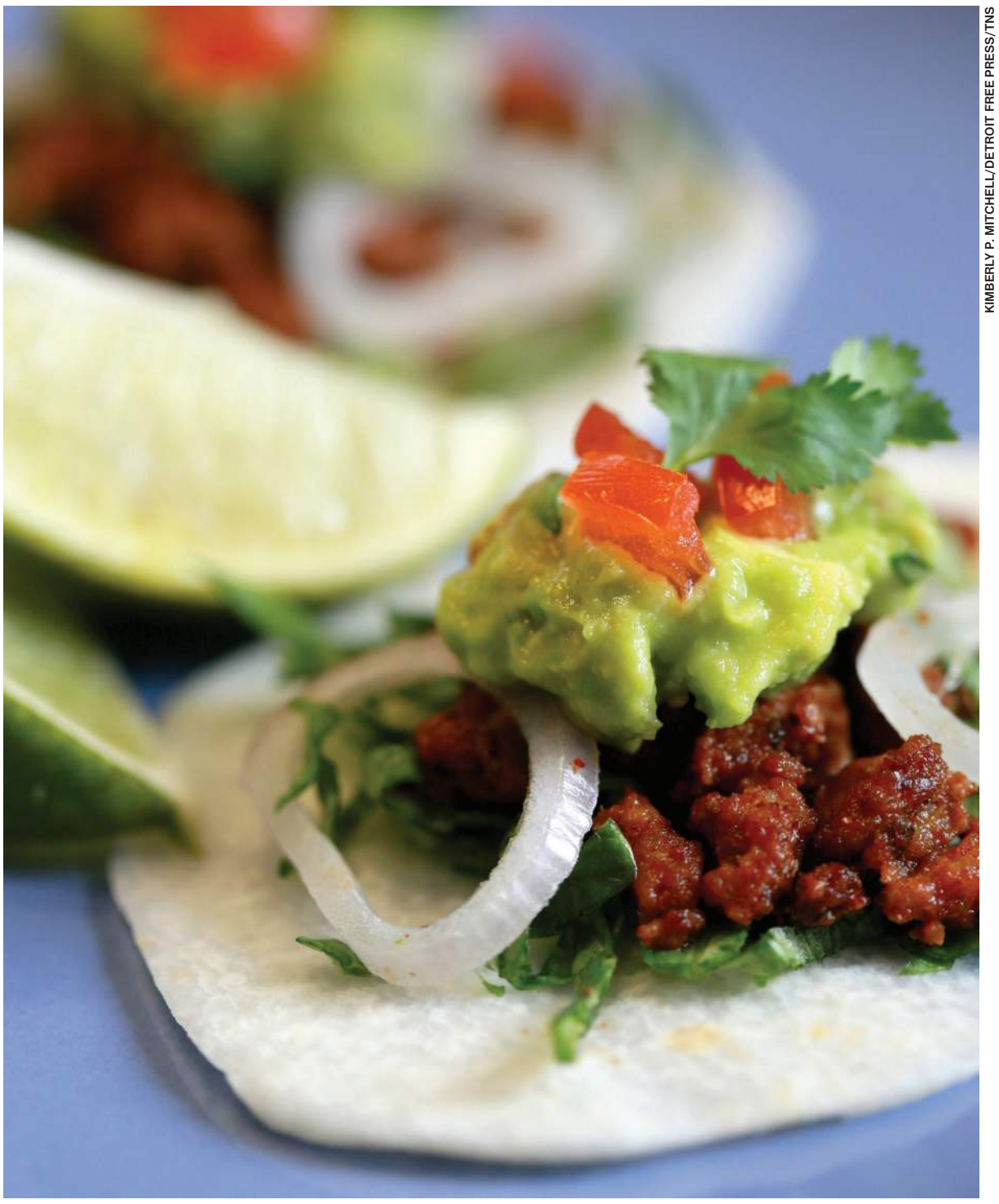
His support is particularly thin among women, who led the protests against him Saturday. According to a recent Ibope poll, 36 percent of men surveyed said they would vote for Bolsonaro, while only 18 percent of women supported him — an unusually large gap.

The difference in support between men and woman for other candidates varies by only a handful of percentage points.

The poll was conducted between Sept. 22 and 24 and has a margin of error of 2 percentage points.

Health & Wellness

This advertorial is sponsored by Tan Holdings HEALTH IS WEALTH Tan Siu Lin Foundation



KIMBERLY P. MITCHELL/DETROIT FREE PRESS/TNS

Jicama Tacos are a good way to eat Paleo, a diet that features meat and vegetables, and no processed food.

How to convert your diet to Paleo and lose weight

By SUSAN SELASKY
DETROIT FREE PRESS

Eat like a caveman. That's the thrust of the trendy Paleo style of eating.

At its core, the Paleo diet is devoid of all processed foods, refined sugars and dairy. In theory, it is supposed to mirror the way Stone Age hunter-gathers ate. The diet has been around for a while, but has gained popularity over the last several years. And it doesn't seem to be headed for extinction anytime soon.

Nate Furlong of New Hudson, Mich., has been following a Paleo diet for three years. Furlong, 29, a clinical exercise physiologist, discovered the Paleo way of eating while working in a cardiologist office. (He's also a personal trainer and Paleo nutrition expert, owns Well Fit Life in Novi, Mich., and co-owner of Train Better Personal Trainers.)

"I was ... helping clients with some nutrition recommendations according to normal USDA standards: low fat, kind of low protein and higher in carbohydrates," Furlong said. "I saw them lose some weight, but not get off meds, so I started searching other options and Paleo was talked about favorably."

The Paleo diet promotes eating lean meats and fish along with lots of fruits and non-starchy vegetables, nuts and seeds. What's out? Most grains and legumes.

We caught up with Furlong recently at the Better Health Store in Novi, where he often conducts Paleo diet grocery tours as well as seminars. Here's a bit of what he had to say about eating and shopping the Paleo way:

QUESTION: What made you convert to the Paleo way of eating?

ANSWER: What struck me was that by reducing some processed food, people had better cholesterol levels—ultimately, it helped people more. I've seen some clients get off meds. And that's what gave me a kick.

Q: What are the benefits of Paleo?

A: Potential weight loss and increased cognitive function ... along with problem solving. There's also increased energy level and potential rebalancing of blood cholesterol—HDLs, LDLs and triglycerides.

Q: Is it easy to follow? How do you advise people to start?

A: It usually takes people a couple of tries. You start by cutting out things like pop and things that have added sugar and cutting back on the some of the gluten, dairy until you ... minimize it. At the same time, I try to get them to eat more protein with each meal.

Q: What does a Paleo diet look in pyramid form?

A: Meat is on bottom along with veggies. The next level is non-starchy vegetables and fruits. ... The next rung is seeds and nuts. But the balancer here, in regular Paleo nutrition, is that while meat is in the bottom so is unlimited non-starchy veggies.

Q: Beef plays a huge role, as does poultry and fish. What do you recommend?

A: Really you are what you eat, and your food is what your food has been eating. For that reason, it's important that you choose ... from grass-fed and free-range sources. My personal favorite is a grass-fed porterhouse steak. With fish, it's salmon because of the taste ... and it's really high in omega-3s.

Q: Nuts and seeds are a core Paleo concept. Which ones are best and how do they help?

A: I recommend one to two handfuls a day, rotating the variety you eat. I use PAW as the acronym ... pecans, almonds and walnuts. Nuts and seeds satiate you and help when you start having a craving for something crunchy and salty.

Q: Why are beans (legumes) and grains not part of a Paleo diet?

A: Beans and legumes are a hot spot because they are considered anti-nutrients. (An anti-nutrient is a compound that interferes with the absorption of nutrients.) For example, kidney beans can cause inflammation and they are the highest in anti-nutrients. Some people who are 100 percent Paleo would say get rid of any food that has anti-nutrients. Grains are eliminated, too, because of the amount of anti-nutrient content. ... But I am a fan of sprouting grains and there are sprouted breads like Eziekil and there is Paleo bread made with coconut flour.

Q: What fruits and vegetables are recommended?

A: It depends on your overall goal. We shoot toward thin skin fruits like berries. Most people who want to lose weight stay there. Athletes need to eat more thick-skin fruits like bananas and oranges.

Q: What's your best Paleo cooking kitchen tip?

A: Take your favorite recipes and find simple Paleo modifications to them. For example, use Celtic sea salt instead of table salt, almond flour instead of regular flour and sweet potatoes instead of regular.

Q: Are there any foods you miss?

A: Not really. Most of the foods that aren't Paleo should actually just be eaten for special occasions or celebrations—and that's when I eat mine. I LOVE pizza, and I'll have a few slices once every month or so. ... Life is too short to say "no" to foods you love. We should just say "no" more often.

JICAMA TACOS

Serves: 8 / Preparation time: 30 minutes / Total time: 45 minutes

You may need to buy 2 jicamas. They should be close to the size of your mandoline, if using one. I was able to slice the jicamas thinly, carefully using a knife. Cut any leftover pieces of jicama into matchstick-size pieces and add them as a topping.

TACOS

- 1 to 2 jicamas
- 1 pound ground beef or turkey
- Seasoning mixture
- 2 cups lettuce, loosely packed
- 1 cup guacamole
- 1/4 red onion, julienned
- Favorite salsa
- Cilantro and lime wedges for garnish

SEASONING MIXTURE

- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 1/2 tablespoons cumin
- 1 1/2 tablespoons paprika
- 1 tablespoon onion powder
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- 2 teaspoons dried oregano
- 1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes

Peel jicamas and slice as thinly as possible using a mandoline or a sharp knife. Soak jicama slices in warm water for about 10 to 15 minutes prior to serving. The slices will not become completely pliable like a soft corn tortilla, but enough to pick up and fold slightly.

In a large skillet, place the ground beef or turkey and cook on medium heat until no longer pink. Sprinkle with all the seasonings and stir until evenly distributed.

Pat jicama slices dry, and top with lettuce, meat, guacamole, onion and salsa.

Garnish with cilantro and lime wedges, and serve.

Adapated from "The Food Lovers Make it Paleo: Over 200 Recipes For Any Occasion" by Bill Staley and Hayley Mason (Victory Belt Publishing, $34.95).

Tested by Susan Selasky for the Free Press Test Kitchen. Nutrition information not available.

Life & Style

Ancient cemetery unearthed in Albania

TURAN, Albania (AP)—In a rich agricultural basin near the town of Korca in southeastern Albania, gas pipeline construction work is offering archaeologists a unique insight into 5,000 years of history in a country that was off most experts' radar during decades of isolationist Communist rule.

The excavations near the village of Turan, which ended Friday after 18 months, have unearthed one of the biggest ancient cemeteries in Albania, with about 1,000 layered burials, several of them richly furnished.

And under the bottom layer are traces of a rare Neolithic settlement demarcated by holes in the ground that supported the now-rotted wooden skeletons of small huts.

More than 20 Neolithic sites have been found in Albania, dating roughly from the 7th to the 3rd millennia B.C., which are some of the earliest farming settlements in Europe. But according to Turan lead archaeologist Iris Pojani, the pipeline work provided the opportunity—and the funding—to excavate an unusually large inhabited area from that era.

It was "the cherry on the cake," Pojani, a professor at Tirana University's faculty of history and letters, told The Associated Press.

Above the millennia-old huts, her team of 50 archaeologists excavating an area of 4,000 square meters (43,000 square feet) found three cemeteries from the Iron Age, late Roman times and the Middle Ages. No traces of the settlements these cemeteries served have yet been located, but Pojani said it's easy to see why people through the ages chose to live there.

"Even nowadays this is a prosperous agricultural area," she said.

Grave goods included rings, bracelets, earrings, amber and glass beads, gold coins, lots of pottery—including local copies of 11th or 10th century B.C. wine jugs popular in neighboring Greece—medieval wooden caskets and clothes worked with silver thread, as well as spears, daggers, knives and swords.

Turan, 180 kilometers (110 miles) southeast of the capital Tirana, is the most important of about 30 sites already found during laying of the underground Trans Adriatic Pipeline, or TAP, that will bring natural gas from Azerbaijan through Turkey, Greece and Albania, and across the Adriatic Sea to southern Italy.

Cher admits wanting to get Kennedy honor during Obama years

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP)—The phone call telling Cher she was a Kennedy Center honoree was certainly welcome—but she admits she wanted to get it earlier.

The Grammy, Emmy and Oscar winner, whose ABBA-tribute album "Dancing Queen" was just released, acknowledged she'd long hoped for that call. She said she "wanted to get it so badly" during the Obama administration.

Now she will, at age 72, during the Donald Trump administration, which might make for an awkward gathering. A regular at anti-Trump rallies and marches, Cher ranks among the most outspoken celebrities against the U.S. president. The White House said no decisions had been made on whether Trump would participate in this year's Kennedy Center Honors program.

The Kennedy Center prize is given to those in the performing arts for lifetime contributions to American culture. This year's other recipients are composer and pianist Philip Glass, country music entertainer Reba McEntire, and jazz saxophonist and composer Wayne Shorter. The co-creators of the Tony-winning musical "Hamilton" will receive a special award as trailblazing creators of a transformative work that defies category.

Cher

Cher missed out on the first wave of ABBA-mania, which began to sweep most of the rest of the planet with the Swedish quartet's 1974 Eurovision Song Contest win with "Waterloo" and was confirmed by the successes of "SOS" and "Mamma Mia" a year later.

"I was most Americans," Cher commented. "I knew 'Waterloo,' 'Dancing Queen' and 'Mamma Mia.' And that's pretty much it. And then I became a fan with 'Muriel's Wedding,'" she continued, referring to the 1994 Australian dark comedy that played a key role in reviving interest in ABBA recordings.

New trial in 'Stairway to Heaven' lawsuit

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A U.S. appeals court on Friday ordered a new trial in a lawsuit accusing Led Zeppelin of copying an obscure 1960s instrumental for the intro to its classic 1971 rock anthem "Stairway to Heaven."

A federal court jury in Los Angeles two years ago found Led Zeppelin did not steal the famous riff from the song "Taurus" by the band Spirit.

But a three-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled unanimously that the lower court judge provided erroneous jury instructions that misled jurors about copyright law central to the suit. It sent the case back to the court for another trial.

A phone message left with an attorney for Led Zeppelin, Peter Anderson, was not immediately returned.

Michael Skidmore, a trustee for the estate of late Spirit guitarist Randy Wolfe, filed the lawsuit against Led Zeppelin in 2015.

Jurors returned their verdict for Led Zeppelin after a five-day trial at which band members Jimmy Page and Robert Plant testified.

Page says he wrote the music and Plant has claimed the lyrics, saying "Stairway" was an original. In several hours of often-animated and amusing testimony, they described the craft behind one of rock's best-known songs.

The jury found "Stairway to Heaven" and "Taurus" were not substantially similar, according to the 9th Circuit ruling.

But it also said U.S. District Judge R. Gary Klausner failed to advise jurors that while individual elements of a song such as its notes or scale may not qualify for copyright protection, a combination of those elements may if it is sufficiently original, 9th Circuit Judge Richard Paez said.

Wesley Lewis, an attorney who handles copyright cases at the firm, Haynes and Boone, said that was an important copyright principle that could prompt jurors to think differently about the case.

Klausner also wrongly told jurors that copyright does not protect chromatic scales, arpeggios or short sequences of three notes, the 9th Circuit panel found.

"This error was not harmless as it undercut testimony by Skidmore's expert that Led Zeppelin copied a chromatic scale that had been used in an original manner," Paez said.

The panel also found another jury instruction misleading.

Francis Malofiy, an attorney for Skidmore, said in a statement his client faced "unfair rulings at the trial court level" and looked forward "to the challenge of a fair fight."

'Huge win' as banned Kenyan film is allowed limited showings

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—The first Kenyan feature film to premiere at the Cannes Film Festival has received overwhelming audience support since a court temporarily lifted a ban imposed by censors over the film's gay content, a lawyer said Friday.

"Rafiki" went from being screened once a day in one theater in Nairobi on Sept. 22 to three daily screenings at theaters in three of Kenya's largest cities as of Friday, said Sofia Leteipan, who represents director Wanuri Kahiu.

The court ruled that the film, a love story featuring two women, could be viewed locally for one week to make it eligible for Oscar contention. The ban will resume after Sunday showings.

Ezekiel Mutua, the head of the Kenya Film Classification Board, has said that only "a small portion" of the country's population has seen it.

"There is no market for homosexual movies in Kenya. Is there value for money in making a homosexual movie that will be watched by 300 out of 44 million people?" Mutua said in an interview on Citizen Television earlier in the week.

It is illegal to have same-gender sex in Kenya. Gays and lesbians in many parts of Africa face severe harassment, physical threats and judicial punishment.

Kenya's National Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission is currently in court arguing that sections of the penal code violate the constitution and deny basic rights by criminalizing consensual same-sex relations between adults.

Leteipan said that although "Rafiki" in the end wasn't nominated for an Oscar, its screening across Kenya is a "huge win for the articulation of freedom of expression."

She said that after the ban resumes, "we'll still be in court pursuing the original petition to have the ban permanently lifted and strike out provisions of Films and Stage Plays Act which restrict freedom of expression and constrain creativity."

After watching the film, gay activist Immah Reid called it a "well-structured conversation starter for sexuality in Kenya ... how gender appears and the violence people who don't conform to gender rules end up going through."

Maureen Nyambura, a university student, said it is progress that "Rafiki" is being seen in a society that often doesn't tolerate different sexualities.

"You don't have to be a woman to fall in love with a man and vice versa. It's time Kenya embraces sexual diversity," she said.

In Loving Memory

DENNIS ATALIG TAISACAN

Better known as "Den/Kerido" of Rota, passed away on September 23, 2018 at the age of 52

February 01, 1966 - Sept 23, 2018

In his new life, he now joins his:

Father:	†Leon Inos Taisacan
Mother:	†Lydia Atalig Taisacan
Brother:	†Wilfred Atalig Taisacan
Grandparents:	†Ana Inos Taisacan
	†Juan Satur Taisacan
	†Maria Barcinas Atalig
	†Jose Camacho Atalig

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife:	Geraldine Castrence Taisacan
Sons:	Deon Castrence Taisacan
	John Joseph Castrence Taisacan
Daughters:	Gydia Lynn T. & Joab Jacob P. Camacho (Danny Leon, Dylan Jacob, Ava Jade)
	Ana Maria Castrence Taisacan
Brother:	Ronald Atalig Taisacan
Sisters & Spouse:	Caroline T. & Jose M. Cabrera (Lydine C. & Jackery Arriola, Jose, Lydisha)
	Lilian T. & Kenneth Indalecio (Kenneth Leon)

He is additionally survived by numerous uncles & aunties, cousins, nieces and nephews.

There will be a viewing at Borja Funeral Home on Thursday, October 04, 2018 from 9:00am – 11:00am and the body will be sent to Rota on Friday, October 05, 2018 at 10:00am.

On Monday, October 8, 2018, funeral mass will be held on Rota at San Francisco De Borja Church in Songsong, at 9:00am, followed by the Christian Burial at San Jose Cemetery.

Thank you, Dangkulo Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Ghilisou, and Maraming Salamat Po

Ginen I Familia

Vladimir Putin's annual calendars come out, reaction mixed

MOSCOW (AP)—What will it be this year? Vladimir Putin without a shirt astride a horse? Putin posing for a selfie with two jubilant brides? Or Putin cuddled up with a baby leopard?

This year, Russians have been given a full range of choice in newly-published annual calendars featuring the Russian leader. Some were delighted, others remained skeptical.

"It's really lovely!" said Anya, inspecting the cover of one calendar emblazoned with Putin's quote "I admire Russian Women!" ''Oh, and there's Vladimir Vladimirovich, my love!"

Anya, who was not comfortable giving her last name to a reporter, said she was from Crimea, which was annexed by Russia from Ukraine in 2014. She was happy that her home region was now part of Russia.

AP
Two calendars showing the Russian leader are displayed in Moscow, Russia, Friday, Sept. 28, 2018.

Danila Kamenchenko, a salesman at a central Moscow bookstore, picked his words carefully when describing the popularity of Putin's image.

"In this series of calendars, our president is presented in various characters," he said. "We see him confident or positive. We feel safe in our country, we have confidence in the future."

Kamenchenko said the calendar is wildly popular among tourists and Russian lawmakers.

Veteran kiosk seller, Valentina Lebedeva, however, has had enough of the calendars.

"I'm sick of them, I don't want to sell them anymore." she says. "Who likes (this president?) ... not ordinary people!"

Lebedeva, a staunch Communist who yearns for her Soviet past, spoke of a long list of grievances under Putin's government: widespread poverty, bad hospitals and a pension reform that has fueled protests nationwide.

The measure to raise the retirement ages for men and women by five years has angered Russians from across the political spectrum and caused a drop in Putin's approval ratings.

Superman to The Fonz: Vintage lunchbox collection on sale

CINCINNATI (AP)—Look, up on the shelf! It's Superman. There's the king of the wild frontier himself, Davy Crockett. And over in that case is Davy Crockett again, except this time he's Daniel Boone (we'll explain later). And aaaaay! It's The Fonz and the whole "Happy Days" family!

A veteran auctioneer has on display a baby boomer delight: hundreds of vintage lunchboxes featuring the heroes of their childhood comic books, TV shows, cartoon strips, movies and more.

"I've never had anything like this," said J. Louis Karp, whose family-run business has been part of Cincinnati since the first years after the Civil War. "This is quite different."

Sure, you can go to any number of websites to buy old metal lunchboxes from the 1950s, '60s and '70s. But to see 250 of them in the same place, to be able to pick them up, and then spot one just like mom packed for you with a peanut butter-and-jelly sandwich in the first grade. ...

But back to the auction.

Karp regularly sells large estates loaded with rare artwork, antique furniture and collectibles. He has sold vintage lunchboxes before, but never so many. The private collection's proceeds will benefit younger generations of the owner's family.

Weldon Adams, a collectibles expert for Dallas-based Heritage Auctions, viewed the lunchboxes online and said such a large, eclectic sale is a rarity.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

'House of Cards' trailer has Robin Wright at center stage

NEW YORK (AP)—The trailer for the next season of "House of Cards" is missing Kevin Spacey and declares: "The reign of the middle-aged white man is over." The trailer released Thursday depicts Robin Wright's Claire Underwood taking over as president after her husband's death in the Netflix series. Spacey, who played the late President Frank Underwood, was fired from the show after several employees accused him of inappropriate behavior. And actor Anthony Rapp last year accused Spacey of sexual misconduct when he was 14 and Spacey was 26. Spacey tweeted an apology for what he labeled drunken behavior. The sixth and final season of "House of Cards" will be available on the streaming service Nov. 2.

Wanda Sykes' jokes about Trump lead to heckling, walkouts

RED BANK, N.J. (AP)—Over a dozen angry fans walked out or were kicked out of comedian Wanda Sykes' show in New Jersey for heckling her when she opened with a series of jokes about President Donald Trump. Sykes began her set at the Count Basie Center for the Arts on Thursday in Red Bank by making fun of how the public appears to be aging more quickly from stress during Trump's administration. The Asbury Park Press reports some attendees began heckling Sykes, complaining that she was being political. About a dozen attendees walked out and began to argue with one another and staff in the lobby. Attendees who stayed at the show say that it was enjoyable and that attendees should have expected jokes at the president's expense.

CNN founder Turner says network is too heavy on politics

NEW YORK (AP)—CNN founder Ted Turner still occasionally watches the network he started nearly four decades ago, although he thinks it's a little heavy on politics. Turner said in an interview with "CBS Sunday Morning" that airs this weekend that he'd prefer his old network had a more balanced agenda, "but that's just one man's opinion." Turner hasn't had anything to do with CNN for years. He's 79, and spoke in the CBS interview about his battle with a progressive brain disorder. He has Lewy Body Dementia, and said the main symptoms are exhaustion and forgetfulness. Turner said he once thought about running for president when he was married to Jane Fonda. He said she told him that if you run for office, you run alone.

76ers Embiid sings his heart out in video from Sheeran show

PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Philadelphia 76ers fan favorite Joel Embiid is apparently a fan himself—of Ed Sheeran. The British singer-songwriter made a stop in Philadelphia on Thursday, performing for a sold-out crowd at the Lincoln Financial Field. Embiid posted a video of Sheeran's performance on his Instagram and the All-Star center can be heard singing along enthusiastically—if not entirely in tune—to the songs "Perfect" and "Shape of You." He embedded the word "awesome" along the bottom of one of the videos. His teammate Dario Saric also posted videos and a photo of the Sheeran show, but without any heartfelt singalongs like Embiid's. Sheeran endeared himself to the crowd by congratulating them on the Philadelphia Eagles Super Bowl victory, and by donning an Eagles jersey during his encore.

Mom sees lonely life ahead for easily wounded daughter

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, "Roxanne," married right out of high school. Eleven years later she finally woke up and realized the man of her dreams was a deadbeat. She has now been divorced as long as she was married, still looking for a good man who will love her and share a future with her.

She's very sensitive, and I don't know how to tell her she needs to change her attitude about life in general, because no one wants to hear her recite all the bad things that have happened to her since childhood. She has always had a hard time letting go of small slights, from things that go on at work to as far back as school or sibling feuds.

Roxanne is a wonderful, beautiful woman, and my heart breaks to think of her spending the rest of her life alone. Her dad and I won't live forever. I'm afraid if I tell her how I feel, she'll no longer want to confide in me and talk out her problems. (I am her sounding board.) I don't mind listening so she can get it out of her system, but how do I get her to let it go and move forward?

MOM WHO LOVES HER IN KENTUCKY

DEAR MOM: You mean well, but it may be time to cut back on being your daughter's sounding board, which seems more like a dumping ground. Tell her you love her, but that repeating her unresolved grievances is getting her nowhere. She needs to talk to a licensed professional. Urge her to discuss these painful things with a therapist who can put her on a path to putting them behind her.

DEAR ABBY: I am a junior in college, and I recently transferred from a two-year school to a four-year school. I have made a few friends, but their class loads are so heavy I don't get to spend much time with them. I, on the other hand, have a modest class load, so I have more free time, and I'd like to make more friends.

I have considered joining one of the two sororities on campus. But I am worried that if I do I will have to change my personality and likes/dislikes in order to fit in. Many of the girls at this school are very "cookie cutter," while I'm a more "eat the whole roll of cookie dough" type of person. I'm not concerned with how I look vs. how they look, but rather if I will fit in. I want more friends and friendships that will last beyond school, but I don't want to lose who I am because I joined a sorority. Please help.

TO RUSH OR NOT TO RUSH

DEAR TO RUSH OR NOT: Don't rush to rush. A sorority is not the only way you can connect with people. Membership in a sorority does not guarantee that you will have friendships that last beyond college. They are like any other living arrangement—people make friends with others they connect with. If you want to widen your social circle, the same thing can be accomplished by living in a dorm and joining clubs and special interest groups on campus.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

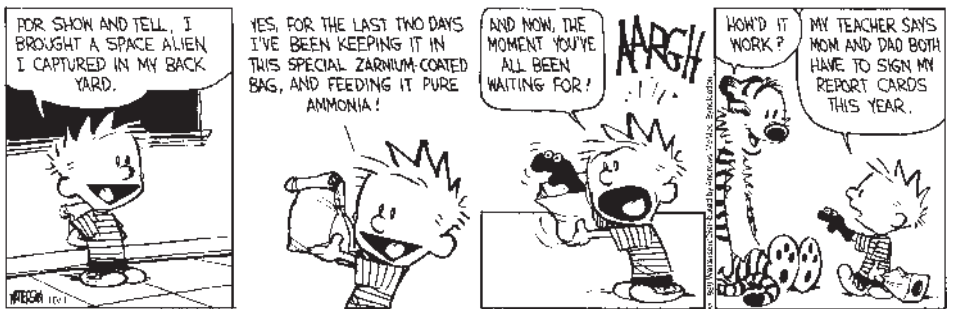
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

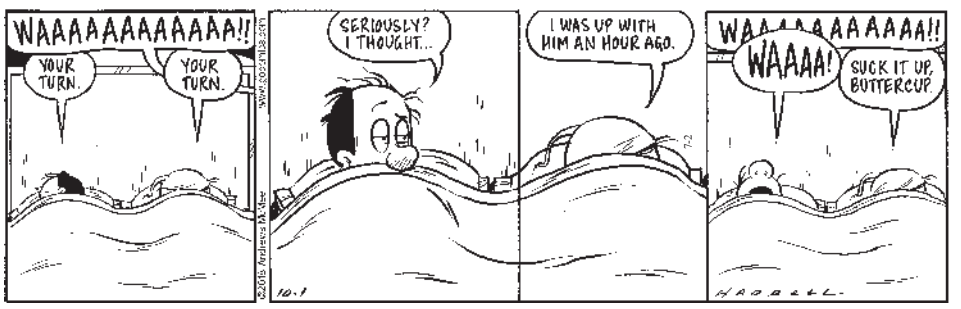

FOR SHOW AND TELL, I BROUGHT A SPACE ALIEN I CAPTURED IN MY BACK YARD.
YES, FOR THE LAST TWO DAYS I'VE BEEN KEEPING IT IN THIS SPECIAL ZARNIUM-COATED BAG, AND FEEDING IT PURE AMMONIA!
AND NOW, THE MOMENT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR!
AARGH!
HOW'D IT WORK?
MY TEACHER SAYS MOM AND DAD BOTH HAVE TO SIGN MY REPORT CARDS THIS YEAR.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

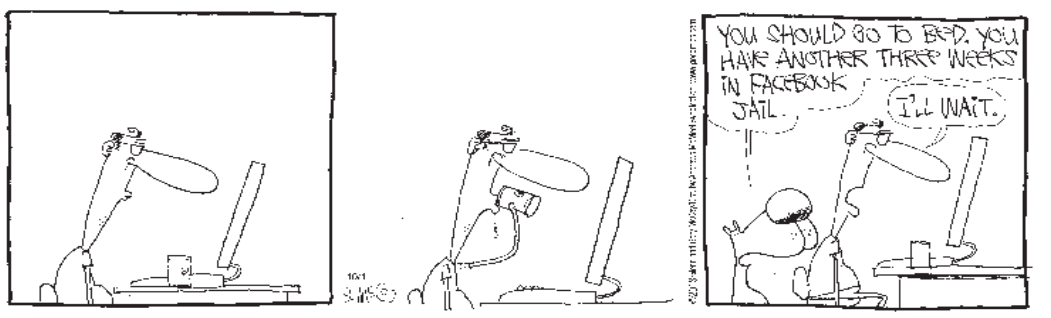
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Tax prep pro
4 Do sums
7 Rhyming tributes
11 Golf target
13 Dead heat
14 Luau dance
15 Cruising
16 Oft-tattooed word
17 Blend
18 Connection
20 Former NYC mayor Giuliani
22 Poorly lit
24 Baseball great Jackson
28 Cold Russian region
32 Do-re-mi
33 Power co. supply
34 Illustrations
36 Last writes?
37 Bar legally
39 Restaurant fans
41 Composer Gustav
43 Have
44 Burden
46 Rife with foliage
50 Chinese dynasty
53 "Fresh Air" airer
55 — gin fizz
56 PC picture
57 Stickum
58 Diving duck
59 Chromosome part
60 Norm (Abbr.)
61 Ninny

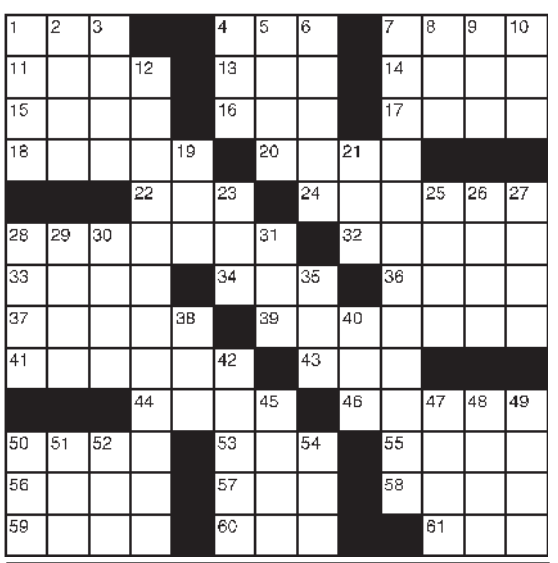
DOWN

1 Sleuth Charlie
2 Sit for a photo
3 TV's Trebek
4 $ dispenser
5 Couturier Christian
6 Object (to)
7 "Gee whiz!"
8 Expected
9 Right angle
10 Blue
12 Fragrance shop purchase
19 Knight's address
21 Rep.'s rival
23 Soccer's Hamm
25 Asian desert
26 "Would — to you?"
27 Comestibles
28 Appear
29 "Casablanca" role
30 "Little Women" sister
31 "Bow-wow!"
35 As well
38 Corral
40 Wise bird
42 Ladder steps
45 Espy
47 — mater
48 Nemeses
49 Evergreens
50 "Top Gun" target
51 "Rocks"
52 Dijon denial
54 Scepter

Solution time: 26 mins.

P	A	C	T	S	■	L	A	B	■	F	L	A
E	I	H	I	C	■	E	G	C	■	R	C	C
G	L	A	R	E	■	C	I	A	R	I	C	T
■	■	H	E	N	A	I	A	■	E	S	S	E
M	M	M	■	T	R	E	■	L	I	K	E	D
N	E	E	L	■	G	R	I	E	G	■	■	■
I	N	D	I	G	O	■	I	C	N	C	I	O
■	■	■	T	I	T	L	E	■	S	H	A	D
S	W	A	T	S	■	L	A	S	■	A	G	E
A	A	P	E	■	■	O	P	T	E	R	■	■
C	H	A	R	I	T	Y	■	R	U	L	E	D
R	O	B	■	C	A	D	■	A	R	I	S	E
E	O	S	■	U	S	S	■	P	C	E	T	S

Last Friday's Answer 10-01



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Brie Larson, 29; Zach Galifianakis, 49; Esai Morales, 56; Julie Andrews, 83.

Happy Birthday: Learn from experience. Gravitate toward people and places that make you feel comfortable and capable of reaching your goals. Engage in exercises that will help you grow stronger personally, physically and emotionally. Interact with people who can help bring about positive change, not those trying to coerce you into doing things that aren't beneficial or good for you. Your numbers are 8, 12, 22, 27, 39, 45, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Listen carefully. Prepare and present your suggestions with confidence and you will get the respect you deserve and need in order to get things done. An unorthodox method may be a hard sell, but in the end, you'll get rewarding results. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Speak up and share your feelings with the people you deal with today. Being up-front will help you get past any conflicts, misunderstandings or pressure you encounter. A relationship will improve if you offer a sincere and affectionate gesture. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Keep moving forward; don't stop until you have achieved what you set out to do. Make your intentions clear, and be willing to put the manpower behind your words. What you do will make a difference to someone in need. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Settle any differences you have using unique solutions that will offer everyone a little bit of something to satisfy their needs. Getting along will be the hard part; the rest will be a piece of cake. Romance should be a priority. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Use your brain and talk your way in or out of whatever comes your way. Control your current situation using common sense and workable solutions. Arguments will slow you down and make it more difficult to find a suitable alternative. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* It's up to you to bring about change if you aren't happy with the way things are moving forward. Put a little elbow grease into whatever needs to be done. You will make an impression on those you encounter. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Get behind your plan instead of waiting for someone else to take control. Engage in conversations that motivate you. If you tell others your plans, it will help you live up to your word and follow through. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Be open to suggestions but also intent on making them your own. Fine-tuning all the information you gather to fit your particular needs will lead to an interesting outcome that can become prosperous and quite beneficial socially. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Work through any setbacks you face by offering an incentive to those causing the roadblock. Know your market and the people you are dealing with to outmaneuver even your toughest opponent. An emotional incident will lead to personal change. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Don't listen to someone trying to push you in a direction that isn't right for you. Do your own thing, and make the change you want to see a priority. What you do will raise awareness and gain respect. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Don't feel you have to follow someone's lead. Refuse to let your emotions step in and cause you to make a poor choice. Concentrate on saving money, as well as protecting your health, possessions and your reputation. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Make your move. You'll gain ground, convince others to tag along and help those who have lost their way. Your input can make a difference, so do your best to set a good example and to honor your promises. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are entertaining, passionate and opportunistic. You are persevering and compelling.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	5			8	7	
2			3		9	4
9			7			1
		3 2		6	5	
		9	1			
7	8		4	5		
3		2				8
7	5	1			6	
	4	9		2		

Difficulty Level ★ 10/01

©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

7	2	6	4	1	8	9	3	5
1	9	4	5	3	7	8	6	2
8	5	3	9	2	6	1	4	7
5	4	7	2	6	1	3	8	9
9	6	2	8	5	3	4	7	1
3	1	8	7	9	4	5	2	6
6	7	1	3	8	9	2	5	4
4	8	5	1	7	2	6	9	3
2	3	9	6	4	5	7	1	8

Difficulty Level ★★★★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

TAKING BREAKS AT WORK — Solution: 6 letters

H	B	P	R	O	D	U	C	T	I	V	I	T	Y	X
E	O	R	H	E	X	E	R	C	I	S	E	C	G	A
M	N	U	E	O	P	D	E	L	T	I	T	N	E	L
A	A	N	R	A	N	E	R	E	S	T	I	N	G	E
I	F	N	N	S	K	E	M	H	T	Ⓖ	N	E	L	R
L	I	O	A	O	T	S	C	P	A	Ⓨ	F	P	E	H
I	D	L	W	G	O	N	E	N	L	Ⓜ	F	A	H	C
N	E	K	A	D	E	N	A	I	A	O	D	I	S	T
G	W	S	L	B	E	M	R	R	C	W	Y	D	I	E
S	O	E	K	A	O	K	E	E	U	I	O	E	N	R
E	R	D	E	R	T	R	C	N	T	A	L	L	E	T
M	K	S	N	A	C	K	S	O	T	F	T	O	L	S
A	I	I	W	E	H	C	I	W	D	N	A	S	P	A
G	N	I	T	A	E	E	L	E	V	E	N	S	E	S
G	G	N	O	L	L	M	O	O	R	T	S	E	R	R

© 2018 King Features Syndicate, Inc. www.wonderwordpuzzles.com 10/1

Afternoon, Allowance, Bona Fide, Breaks, Desk, Docked, Eating, Elevenses, Emailing, Employees, Entitled, Exercise, Games, Gym, Hours, Labor, Laws, Length, Long, Management, Managing, Morning, Nap, Need, Paid, Phone, Policies, Productivity, Read, Relax, Replenish, Restaurants, Resting, Restroom, Sandwich, Snacks, Stretch, Talk, Walk, Working

Last Friday's Answer: Percentage

To purchase **WONDERWORD** books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Education Coordinator

AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK

PACIFIC HISTORIC PARKS
★ Remember ★ Honor ★ Understand ★

Pacific Historic Parks is seeking a skilled educator to conduct and support education programs with the National Park Service at American Memorial Park on Saipan.

- High school diploma or equivalent and experience working in education and/or related fields required.
- The right candidate should possess excellent written and verbal communication skills and be positive, energetic and creative.
- Collaborates well with others and demonstrates enthusiasm for teaching youth in Pre-K thru 12th grade.
- Salary dependent on qualifications.

Please submit your resume and cover letter to Jovannalyn Mafnas at the American Memorial Park Visitor Center, between 9:00 am-5:00 pm or email jmafnas@pacifichistoricparks.org. Position closes at 5:00 pm on October 19, 2019. EEO

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude.
Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) COOK – CHINESE CUISINE
Must have at least a minimum of two (2) years of related work experience in preparing Chinese and Asian cuisine. Must have previous experience in high volume production including large banquets, functions, and special events. Must be able to communicate clearly in English. A High School Diploma or higher is required. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Monday, October 8th 2018.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Bridge Investment Group, LLC

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Location: Tinian

Title: Senior Construction Project Manager

Qualifications:
- Proficient in English and Chinese.
- Bachelor's degree in Architecture, Engineering or related fields.
- 8-10 years of experience in project management or related fields.

Job Description:
Performs general oversight of many duties and tasks that must be accomplished in the construction, renovation, or restructuring of a property. They must be organized and able to delegate tasks and responsibilities to subordinate project managers, contractors, and laborers.

Title: Cost Engineer

Qualifications:
- Proficient in English and Chinese.
- Bachelor's degree in Engineering or related fields.
- 5-10 years of experience in large scale real estate development projects.

Job Description:
Estimate and analyze requirements and specifications of a project to determine associated costs.

All interested applicants may send résumés and/or request for an employment application by emailing bigtinian.hr@gmail.com, or by visiting the BIG Human Resources office. Bridge Investment Group, LLC. is an equal opportunity employer.

PACIFIC ISLANDS CLUB SAIPAN

We are seeking for high energy individuals with a positive, can do attitude.
Pacific Islands Club, Saipan is inviting qualified, U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

(1) AIR CONDITIONING MECHANIC
Minimum of four (4) years of relevant work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

(1) BAKER
Minimum of three (3) years of related work experience. Must be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays.

Applications must be received by 5:00pm on Friday, October 5th 2018.
PIC applications are available at the PIC Security Desk by the Loading Dock/Employee Entrance. Incomplete applications will NOT be accepted or considered.
PIC is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

THE WORLD TRAVELER'S
PREFERRED DESTINATION
FOR LUXURIOUS SHOPPING

DFS

Don't have a computer?

Scan this barcode and apply using your smart phone today!

EXCITING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH DFS SAIPAN

WE ARE LOOKING FOR DYNAMIC INDIVIDUALS WHO STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE, VALUE, INTEGRITY AND TEAM WORK.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT T-GALLERIA

- **Travel Industry Marketing Manager, Korean (REF# DFS7210128)**
- **Learning & Development Manager (REF# DFS7210129)**
- **Boutique Manager, Cartier (REF# DFS7210132)**

To apply for the positions, visit

WWW.CAREERS.DFS.COM

CONFIDENTIAL CONTACT:
ESTHER ADA, HR MANAGER, DFS SAIPAN LIMITED

HRSAIPAN@DFS.COM : +1670.234.6615

DFS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

WHATZIT Solution: A dark horse

RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	**$15**	**$30**
• 5-Liner	**$24**	**$45**

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

Black Beauty

WHATZIT? © 2018 www.whatzit.com Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Final-day drama to decide 2 titles, Yelich push

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The last scheduled day of the regular season will see all 15 games begin within 15 minutes of each other—a perfect setup to settle a pair of NL division races.

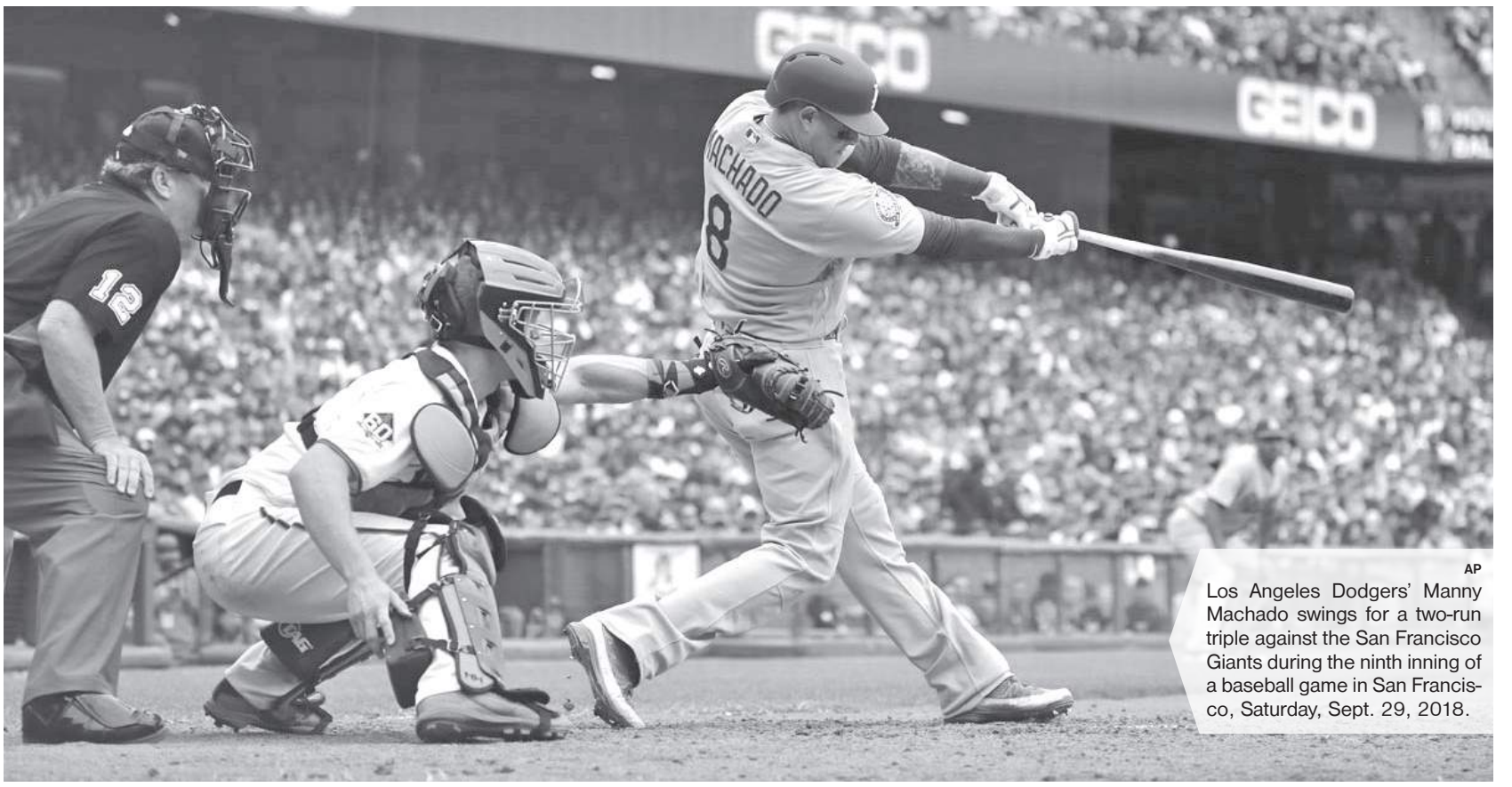
The Chicago Cubs and Milwaukee Brewers are tied atop the NL Central going into Game 162. Mike Montgomery (5-6, 3.99 ERA) starts for the Cubs vs. St. Louis at Wrigley Field, while the Brewers hadn't announced their pitcher to take on the Tigers at Miller Park.

The Los Angeles Dodgers and Colorado Rockies are all even in the NL West. Walker Buehler (7-5, 2.76 ERA) was listed to pitch as the Dodgers visit San Francisco, trying to win their sixth straight division title. The Rockies, who've never finished in first place, face Washington at Coors Field.

The Cubs, Brewers, Dodgers and Rockies have all clinched playoff spots, but want to avoid wild-card peril. If the divisions are tied after Sunday, they'll go to tiebreakers Monday at Wrigley Field and Dodger Stadium — the winner advances to the Division Series, the losers meet Tuesday in the one-and-done wild-card game.

Milwaukee outfielder Christian Yelich goes into the final day with a chance to become the first Triple Crown winner in the National League since Joe Medwick in 1937 for St. Louis.

Yelich holds a sizable edge in the batting race at .324 and his 36 home runs are tied for most in the league with the Cardinals' Matt Carpenter. Yelich only trails in the RBIs column—he has 109 and Javier Baez of the Cubs leads with 111.



AP

Los Angeles Dodgers' Manny Machado swings for a two-run triple against the San Francisco Giants during the ninth inning of a baseball game in San Francisco, Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018.

Yelich, in his first season with the Brewers, faces Detroit rookie Spencer Turnbull at Miller Park. The last Triple Crown winner in the majors with Tigers slugger Miguel Cabrera in 2012.

Meanwhile, the Dodgers clinched baseball's final playoff berth and gave themselves a chance to still win the NL West, getting a go-ahead triple from Manny Machado in the eighth inning Saturday and beating the San Francisco Giants 10-6.

The defending NL champions locked up their sixth straight trip to the postseason, assuring at least a spot in the wild-card game. The Dodgers joined Colorado, Atlanta, the Chicago Cubs and Milwaukee in the NL playoff field.

Cardinals 2, Cubs 1

In Chicago, the Cubs wasted a solid performance by Cole Hamels, sending the NL Central race to the final day of the season.

The Cubs would have wrapped up their third straight division championship with a victory and a loss by the Brewers to Detroit on Saturday night.

Nationals 12, Rockies 2

In Denver, the Colorado Rockies dropped into a tie with Los Angeles for the NL West lead with only one game left, routed by Stephen Strasburg, Juan Soto and the Nationals.

Hoping to hold their one-game edge, the Rockies instead saw their winning streak end at eight. The Dodgers were 10-6 winners in San Francisco earlier to ensure the race will go down to the wire.

Yankees 8, Red Sox 5

In Boston, Gleyber Torres and Giancarlo Stanton connected as the Yankees broke the major league record for home runs in a season and reached 100 wins.

Torres' two-run drive in the fourth was the Yankees' 265th of the year and moved them past the 1997 Seattle Mariners. Stanton pushed the record to 266 in the seventh with his 38th homer, a solo homer to left field.

A fan sitting in the seats above the Green Monster threw the souvenir back, and the ball bounced into Stanton as he rounded second base.

Astros 4, Orioles 3, Game 1
Astros 5, Orioles 2, Game 2

In Baltimore, Justin Verlander struck out 10 in six scoreless innings, helping the Astros take the opener of a doubleheader.

Houston shortstop Carlos Correa homered and hit a tiebreaking RBI double in the ninth inning. Will Harris (5-3) worked the eighth and Hector Rondon got three outs for his 15th save.

Rays 4, Blue Jays 3

In St. Petersburg, C.J. Cron and Austin Meadows homered, powering Tampa Bay to the win.

Rays left-hander Blake Snell struck out 10 in five innings, but failed to win his 10th straight start. He was charged with a run and three hits.

Reds 3, Pirates 0

In Cincinnati, Michael Lorenzen singled home a run and got his first victory as a starter since 2015, helping Cincinnati snap its seven-game losing streak against Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh has dominated the Ohio River rivalry, going 13-5 this season. The seven-game winning streak was the Pirates' longest against the Reds since 1991.

Brewers 6, Tigers 5

In Milwaukee, the Brewers moved into a tie for first place in the NL Central with one game remaining in the regular season, getting two homers from Yelich to beat Detroit and draw even with the Chicago Cubs.

Yelich turned on an 0-1 pitch from left-hander Daniel Stumpf (1-5) and lined it into the second deck in right to break a 5-all tie in the seventh inning. The left-handed slugger also hit a two-run homer in the third inning of the Brewers' sixth straight win.

The Brewers (94-67) were already assured of making their first playoff appearance since 2011.

Phillies 3, Braves 0

In Philadelphia, Aaron Nola pitched seven shutout innings and Cesar Hernandez had a two-run single in the seventh inning to help the Philadelphia Phillies snap a nine-game losing streak.

Nola (17-6) was stellar in his final start of the season, allowing two hits and striking out eight with four walks.

Twins 8, White Sox 3

In Minneapolis, Joe Mauer reached base three times and Kyle Gibson capped a season of improvement with six quality innings as Minnesota matched a season high with its fifth straight win.

Mauer had two hits and scored twice in what could be his final homestand after a 15-year career in Minnesota.

Royals 9, Indians 4

In Kansas City, Adalberto Mondesi hit a tiebreaking, three-run homer to lift Kansas City.

Corey Kluber gave up three runs and seven hits in five innings in his final regular season start for Cleveland while working on a short pitch count ahead of the playoffs.

Diamondbacks 5, Padres 4

In San Diego, rookie Ildemaro Vargas hit his first home run, got his first stolen base and drove in three runs to lead Arizona.

Vargas hit an RBI single in the first inning and a two-run homer in the fourth, both off rookie Jacob Nix (2-5).

Mets 1, Marlins 1, 13 innings

In New York, much like the last few years of his truncated career, David Wright's finale was no fairytale at the plate.

Wright left to a long standing ovation before a sellout crowd at Citi Field in his farewell game for the Mets.

Mariners 4, Rangers 1

In Seattle, Dee Gordon drove in the go-ahead run with a triple in the seventh inning, and James Paxton struck out nine to go over 200 for the season to lead the Mariners.

Paxton came into the day with 199 strikeouts and wasted no time becoming the sixth pitcher in team history to reach 200, striking out leadoff batter Jurickson Profar.

Athletics 5, Angels 2

In Anaheim, Khris Davis hit his major league-leading 48th homer and the Athletics locked up their winningest season in 16 years.

Jed Lowrie homered and drove in two runs for the playoff-bound A's (97-64), who hadn't won 97 games since going 103-59 in 2002.

Yankees set home run record

BOSTON (AP)—The Bronx Bombers lived up to their nickname by hitting another big number. A couple of them, in fact.

Gleyber Torres and Giancarlo Stanton connected as the playoff-bound Yankees set the major league record for most home runs in a season, beating the Boston Red Sox 8-5 Saturday for their 100th win this year.

"I'm happy for them. They work really hard at their craft, and it's a result of a lot of people having success," manager Aaron Boone said.

The Yankees entered Saturday tied with the 1997 Seattle Mariners—a lineup that included Ken Griffey Jr., Alex Rodriguez, Jay Buhner and Edgar Martinez—with 264 homers after hitting four Friday night in an 11-6 win over Boston.

Torres hit a two-run drive in the fourth inning that gave the Yankees the outright record, and Stanton added to it with his 38th of the season in the seventh.

"A lot of cool things happened for our team today, so it was a good day," said Stanton, who also had an RBI single in the first and reached 100 RBIs in his first season with New York.

The Yankees have one more chance to add to the record total Sunday as they try to complete a three-game series sweep against the AL East champion Red Sox, who they could meet again next week in the playoffs.

New York became the first team to get at least 20 home runs from all nine spots in the batting order.

"I didn't even know that until before the game, my meeting with the broadcast team," Boone said.

This is the 10th time in big league history that a team has won at least 100 games and not finished first. Since the start of division play in 1969, the only clubs that didn't wind up on top despite triple-digits wins were Oakland in 2001—which won 102 games to Seattle's 116—San Francisco in 1993 and Baltimore in 1980.

Europe builds 10-6 lead; Woods struggles

AP
Europe's Tommy Fleetwood, left, and Francesco Molinari greet Tiger Woods of the US after a fourball match on the second day of the 42nd Ryder Cup at Le Golf National in Saint-Quentin-en-Yvelines, outside Paris, France, Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018.

SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES, France (AP) —Francesco Molinari and Tommy Fleetwood walked down the fairway after delivering another big point in the Ryder Cup, side by side with their arms around each other's shoulder.

Here came "Moliwood" at Le Golf National, the latest Ryder Cup sensation and the first European tandem to win all four matches since the current format began in 1979. Even more satisfying was that three of those points came at the expense of Tiger Woods.

But this was no time to celebrate.

"We came here to do a job, and it wasn't to go in the record books or anything like that," Molinari said.

And now they have to do it by themselves.

Everything points to Europe taking back the precious gold trophy on Sunday, starting from a 10-6 lead that requires Europe to win only 4 1/2 points from the 12 singles matches on the final day.

Woods hasn't won any of his three matches.

Phil Mickelson didn't even play Saturday.

Europe filled the board with its blue scores right from the start, winning three of the four matches in fourballs for an 8-4 lead, its largest after three sessions in 14 years. It held on in foursomes, with Henrik Stenson delivering clutch putts in the only match that was close.

But the score should sound familiar, and it was enough to make them cautious.

That's the same deficit Europe faced in 2012 at Medinah when it produced the largest comeback on foreign soil. The Americans have never made up that much ground away from home, though they were the first to win after trailing 10-6, at Brookline in 1999 when they front-loaded the Sunday lineup with their biggest stars.

And that was on the mind of Europe captain Thomas Bjorn, even as he was drowned out by thousands of fans using what was left of their voices to sing, "Ole, ole, ole, ole," the European anthem for these matches that Americans have heard far too often.

"We go ahead tomorrow and focus on what's ahead and not what's done," Bjorn said. "We are so well aware of what's standing across on the other side — the greatest players in the world. ... I would never get ahead of myself in this.

"History will show me and everybody on this team that it's not over."

Even so, he couldn't contain a smile.

Europe brought five rookies to Le Golf National who sure didn't seem like rookies— Alex Noren and Fleetwood were the last two French Open champions on the Albatross Course—and certainly didn't play like that.

His four captain's picks have delivered six points, while the American picks have contributed one, by Tony Finau.

"We're really, really, really happy with how it's gone these past two days," Bjorn said.

If not for Jordan Spieth and Justin Thomas, the Americans might really be in trouble. They pulled ahead in a tight fourballs match to beat Ian Poulter and Jon Rahm for the lone American point in the morning that prevented Europe from a second straight sweep of a team session. They rallied from an early deficit against Poulter and Rory McIlroy in foursomes, with both delivering key shots and big putts. With four birdies over their last five holes, they won 4 and 3.

Europe was up 10-4 until Bubba Watson and Webb Simpson won their match on the 16th, and Spieth and Thomas closed out their match right behind them.

"They had a six-point lead, and now it's four," Spieth said. "So we are carrying that as a little bit of momentum, I guess. Early wins tomorrow go a long way."

Thomas leads off the singles against McIlroy.

Woods is in the No. 4 spot against Jon Rahm, who has played two emotional matches without winning.

Mickelson faces Molinari.

"I don't know if there is any one match more important than the other," U.S. captain Jim Furyk said. "You've got 12 of them out there, and we have to win eight points tomorrow to take the cup back home. ... We're trying to make some magic tomorrow."

Mickelson will have to shake off some rust. He hasn't played since Friday in a foursomes loss that lasted only 14 holes. Furyk said he would shake up the order for Saturday afternoon foursomes, and that meant keeping Lefty on the bench.

It was the second time in as many Ryder Cups in Europe that Mickelson, who holds the Ryder Cup record with 12 appearances, did not play on Saturday.

Woods played twice, and at times it looked as though he was playing by himself alongside Patrick Reed and Bryson DeChambeau.

Reed went from "Captain America" to looking more like "Private Patrick," taking himself out of holes in the fourballs session with too many shots into the gnarly rough, in the water and one out-of-bounds.

That wasn't enough to contend against "Moliwood." The fourballs match was all square until Molinari ran off three straight birdies. The foursomes match was never close, as Fleetwood delivered big putts to win holes, each time turning to the crowd in a crouch, dropping both arms and pumping them wildly.

They were 5 up at the turn over Woods and DeChambeau, and a brief rally only delayed the inevitable.

Woods has failed to win seven consecutive matches, dating to his singles victory against Molinari in Wales in 2010.

Winning start for Kawhi; LeBron debuts

VANCOUVER (AP)—Kawhi Leonard is finally back on the court and the Toronto Raptors should be happy with the results.

Leonard scored 12 points in his first game with his new team and the Raptors beat the Portland Trail Blazers 122-104 on Saturday night in Vancouver, British Columbia, in the preseason opener for both teams.

Leonard played 19 minutes and didn't shoot particularly well, missing all four 3-pointers and going just 6 for 11 from the free throw line. But he played aggressively and moved well after being limited to just nine games last season for San Antonio because of a thigh injury. The 2014 NBA Finals MVP hadn't played in a game since January.

Damian Lillard and CJ McCollum each played the first quarter for Portland. Lillard scored 12 points and McCollum had nine.

In Los Angeles, on Sunday we will find out just how interested, or uninterested, LeBron James is in the Lakers' slate of preseason games. Itching to see the game's biggest star play some meaningful minutes in purple and gold? Don't hold your breath.

Or, at least, wait a couple of more weeks.

James not only doesn't see much personal value in the collection of exhibition games that will warm things up before the 82 games that truly matter begin on Oct. 18, he also doesn't have much appetite for talking about them for longer than an occasional snippet.

Head coach Luke Walton said James will have a role when the Lakers take on the Nuggets in San Diego on Sunday and would play "between one and 48 minutes." Bank on it being closer to one than 48, much closer.

"Last year I pretty much didn't play the whole preseason besides one half," James told reporters this week. "So I have no idea. I don't even know how many games we have. I'm not going to play that much minutes."

James has had limited involvement in prior preseasons, so this shouldn't come as too much of a surprise. In Cleveland last season, he took to the floor one time. A year before that, it was three brief appearances. This time, however, a drastically shortened schedule could be a mistake.

For this is a different situation from any James has faced before. Yes, he's 33, and conserving as much energy as possible is practical. Yes, the campaign is painfully long and undeniably grueling.

But there is an altered narrative in James' California adventure. This, as he, Walton and all the senior figures at the club never tire of stating, is a young team that needs time to grow.

In Louisiana, through the first week of camp with the Houston Rockets, all indications are that Carmelo Anthony will be OK coming off the bench if that's the role coach Mike D'Antoni gives him.

That doesn't mean the 10-time All-Star wants to discuss it.

"I don't like talking about it," Anthony said Saturday before the team's last practice at McNeese State before returning to Houston. "People always been speculating. They always speculate so I will continue not to talk about it."

While Anthony, who is in his first year with the Rockets after one tumultuous season in Oklahoma City, refused to discuss whether he'll start or be a reserve, he had plenty to say about a variety of other subjects, candidly answering every other question thrown his way. He reflected on his year with the Thunder, a place where he never seemed to fit in and averaged a career-low 16.2 points in 78 starts.

He said he got "caught up" in outside opinions of what people believed he should do and recounted all the thoughts that were swimming through his head last season.

"(People saying) Oh, he's a stretch 4," Anthony said. "Oh, he should come off the bench. Oh, he should not shoot this many times."

Unbeaten Rams racking up big stats in superb offensive start

LOS ANGELES (AP)— Kurt Warner, Mike Martz and the Greatest Show on Turf never put up as many yards passing in a single game as Jared Goff and Sean McVay did Thursday night.

The St. Louis Rams had one of the greatest offenses in NFL history around the turn of the century. Fifteen years later, their West Coast descendants look ready to make their own mark on the league.

After Goff passed for 465 yards and five touchdowns in Los Angeles' 38-31 victory over the Minnesota Vikings, the Rams are 4-0 for the first time since 2001. That's also the last season in which the Rams made the Super Bowl, and the final unofficial season of the Greatest Show on Turf—the high-octane offense masterminded by Martz and put into action by Warner, Marshall Faulk, Isaac Bruce and their slew of talented teammates.

Warner was watching when Goff went 26 for 33 and shattered his previous career highs for yards passing and TD passes with a dynamic performance against the Vikings. He spread the ball to three receivers who had 100-yard games, while do-everything running back Todd Gurley had 73 yards receiving, 83 yards rushing and a TD catch.

AP

Los Angeles wide receiver Robert Woods makes a touchdown catch in front of Minnesota Vikings linebacker Anthony Barr durong the second half in an NFL game, Thursday, Sept. 27, 2018, in Los Angeles.

"Time to get out the record books," Warner tweeted , adding that the Rams and Goff are "looking to SMASH some of those GSOT numbers! Keep it up boys - it's time!"

No wonder Warner was impressed: Goff's performance was the third-biggest in Rams history and the most prolific since 1982, surpassing any game by Warner, Marc Bulger or Jim Everett.

"Those are quite flattering words," McVay said Friday of Warner's tweet, which included a hashtag hailing the "Greatest Show on Turf II."

"It's a reflection of the way our players are playing, but ultimately the truest measurement of performance is that consistency, and we've got to consistently do it," McVay added. "We've done it for one quarter of the season so far where we've played at a pretty high level. Now the challenge is, can we continue it on when we get back for Week 5?"

While Goff has made obvious strides in confidence and decision-making from his strong sophomore season, his effort isn't the only upgrade on an offense that already made a stunning transformation back in McVay's first year.

The Rams are averaging 468.5 yards per game through the first quarter of the season, second-most in the league and 107 yards per game more than they put up last season, when they were the NFL's highest-scoring team.

Left tackle Andrew Whitworth, whose steady blocking and leadership are lesser-noticed keys to the offense's success, credits the Rams' smooth start to collaboration in practice and film study.

"I have been honestly floored from a perspective of just how humble and how hungry this offense has been about conceptual football," Whitworth said. "It's not really about whether they are going to get catches or touches, or whether Todd is going to get the ball so many times. ... It's about understanding exactly how to attack a team, understanding what their defense does. It's not just guys trying to figure out how to block their guy. It's understanding why their guy plays this way in this system. It takes you to a level where you are almost out there playing as a coach."

At 0-3, Raiders, Texans, and Cardinals show little so far

Even with last week's huge swing in fortunes by the Bills, Giants, Seahawks, Lions and Browns, there remain lots of questions about each of them.

At least they aren't winless.

Then there are the projected contenders who are struggling through three games: New England, Atlanta, Green Bay, Minnesota, Pittsburgh and the Chargers.

Several figure to get going: the Patriots always seem to, and get Julian Edelman back in Week 5; the Packers when Aaron Rodgers is healthier; the Steelers if things ever calm down in the locker room.

Unfortunately, the injuries that have ravaged the Falcons might be too much to overcome.

Still, they have a win, which is more than Houston , Oakland and Arizona can say. Man, are things getting ugly in those places.

"It's frustrating," says Texans coach Bill O'Brien, whose team has been outscored only 74-59. "It is, but that's the way it is. That's the NFL. These are close games and it's the team that doesn't beat themselves that ends up winning, and we've been beating ourselves too much."

As have the Raiders , who can't hold onto a lead. They are the second team in the past 20 seasons to start the season with three straight losses after leading the first three games at halftime.

"Nobody cares right now. They want results," returning coach Jon Gruden insists. "We want to win. I think the players see a lot of things to be confident about, but we know we got to finish football games much better."

The Cardinals need to start and finish games much better. They were blown out in their first two matches, then led Chicago for most of last Sunday's game before folding.

"The guys are disappointed, they're down, but they understand right now it's still early," new coach Steve Wilks says. "We need to find a way to finish football games, as we did not do (Sunday)."

Wilks is correct that it is still early, and 0-3 is not a sentence to purgatory for the remainder of the schedule. Last season, the Chargers began 0-4 and nearly made the playoffs.

The difference between these three 2018 stragglers and the 2017 Chargers is, for one, talent.

CNMI

From Page 28

only have a few days left before the tournament. It will not be an easy game, especially we don't know exactly who Guam are bringing in for this weekend's competition," Koo said.

Koo, however, anticipates some members of the Guam Women's National Team that played against the CNMI in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2019 Round 1 in Ulan Bator, Mongolia last month will see action in this weekend's Marianas Cup. The Commonwealth coach also expects players from Guam's U16 crew that competed in last month's AFC U16 Women's Championship 2019 Qualifiers in Sri Lanka and from the U19 pool, which will participate in the AFC U-19 Women's Championship Qualifiers Round 1 later this October.

As for the CNMI, the home team is likely to be represented in the Marianas Cup by players from the U16 group and national squad that played in Tajikistan and Mongolia, respectively, last month.

Koo said the Commonwealth female players' exposure to off-island competitions this year will be a plus when they see action in the Marianas Cup.

"Playing in international tournaments made them more comfortable and gave them confidence. They will definitely try their best in this Marianas Cup," said Koo.

The last time the CNMI and Guam met in a women's game (EAFF qualifier in Mongolia), the neighboring islands were engaged in a scoreless draw. Meanwhile, the host and visiting teams' U19 players will collide in the 4pm game at the main pitch of the Koblerville facility.

ISLANDER

From Page 28

final quarter.

The Islander wingman was hobbled by foul trouble in the first half and scored only 2 points after three periods. He then redeemed himself in the payoff canto, drilling 14 straight points in that pivotal frame and capping his fourth-quarter explosion by making Islander's last 4 markers, including two free throws that sealed the deal.

Viray earlier picked up two quick fouls in the opening canto, forcing coach Dennis Cortez to replace him. With Viray out, big man Paulo Sanguyo and Angelo Fernandez took the cudgels for Islander in the first quarter and they handed their team a 16-12 lead.

Viray also had limited minutes in the second canto, but Islander kept the upper hand, 39-35, behind the three triples of Elgene Mangali. Despite falling behind at the break, PIC remained in contention, thanks to the trio of James Abuy, Paulo Rafols, and Sean Rabasto.

PIC Saipan went on to grab the driver's seat in the third canto, as Viray still could not find his target despite keeping himself out of foul trouble. Abuy and Rabasto knocked in two treys each, while Rafols took care of business inside for PIC Saipan, which went for win No. 2 after prevailing in its opening game against Imperial Pacific.

However, Islander denied PIC's bid, as the former regained the lead when Viray showed up in the fourth canto, hitting one basket after another.

Meanwhile, Cellular Pro and PEGS played in the second game last Saturday and results of the match will be reported in *Saipan Tribune*'s Tuesday edition.

Islander 75 — Viray 20, Mangali 9, Fernando 8, D. Guiang 8, Sanguyo 8, Pangelinan 5, Paraiso 4, R. Guiang 2, Jandoc 2.

PIC Saipan 72 — Abuy 18, Rabasto 17, Rafols 15, Tolentino 5, Castro 4, Catacutan 4, Lewis 3, Sublemente 2, Bartolo 2, Norita 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-12, 39-35, 54-53, 75-72.

RUGBY

From Page 28

Honolulu Police flag rugby program for the youth," Iakopo said.

"He is a tremendous help. We are extremely blessed and fortunate to have coach Sam as our national coach. He brings with him a whole another level of skills, the technicalities of the game, and smart rugby," Iakopo said.

Since his arrival, Robinson has been conducting the rugby pool's training session every day.

"Coach Sam is evaluating and assessing the skills of the players. Before he came, our practices were only every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday," Iakopo said.

Robinson acknowledged that the CNMI will be up against tough opponents in the Pacific Games in Apia next year, so the challenge for the rugby 7s squad is not only about matching their opponents skills, but also the stamina thus regular practices are a must. "Fiji, Samoa, Papua New Guinea, and New Zealand are definitely the favorites in the Pacific Games. It's going to be a very competitive field, so the players have to be in their best shape," Robinson said.

Meanwhile, Iakopo said that Robinson through the help of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs will be going around schools on Saipan to introduce flag rugby to elementary and middle school students.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Boston	107	54	.665	—
y-New York	100	61	.621	7
Tampa Bay	89	72	.553	18
Toronto	73	88	.453	34
Baltimore	46	115	.286	61

Central Division

x-Cleveland	90	71	.559	—
Minnesota	77	84	.478	13
Detroit	64	97	.398	26
Chicago	62	99	.385	28
Kansas City	58	103	.360	32

West Division

x-Houston	103	58	.640	—
y-Oakland	97	64	.602	6
Seattle	88	73	.547	15
Los Angeles	79	82	.491	24
Texas	67	94	.416	36

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

x-Atlanta	90	71	.559	—
Washington	82	79	.509	8
Philadelphia	79	82	.491	11
New York	76	85	.472	14
Miami	63	97	.394	26½

Central Division

z-Chicago	94	67	.584	—
z-Milwaukee	94	67	.584	—
St. Louis	88	73	.547	6
Pittsburgh	81	79	.506	12½
Cincinnati	67	94	.416	27

West Division

z-Colorado	90	71	.559	—
z-Los Angeles	90	71	.559	—
Arizona	82	79	.509	8
San Francisco	73	88	.453	17
San Diego	65	96	.404	25

x-clinched division
y-clinched wild card

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

3rd Annual Bike and Run for Cure

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

A young runner heads up to the Gov. Eloy S. Inos Memorial Peace Park during the 3rd Annual Bike and Run for Cure held last Saturday in observance of the Prostate and Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

A photographer takes shots of the participants at the starting/finish line at the American Memorial Park.

A female biker is all smiles as she turns around Banzai Cliff to head back to the starting line.

Saipan International School headmaster Ron Snyder takes his time heading to the uphill run course.

A small group of runners keeps a leisure pace going up to the Gov. Eloy S. Inos Memorial Peace Park.

Two bikers make the turnaround of the MTB race in Banzai Cliff.

Commonwealth Cancer Association program manager Juan L. Babauta gives a brief message to bikers before the start of the race.

Barefoot runner Chang Whan Jang negotiates the uphill run course, while other runners head down to return to the American Memorial Park.

Final-day drama to decide 2 titles, Yelich push

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Europe builds 10-6 lead; Woods struggles

PAGE 25

GUAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
The CNMI's Guine Borja, right, keeps a close eye on Guam's Colleen Naden during their game in the 2017 Marianas Cup at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Dededo.

CNMI counting on home crowd support

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CNMI U19 Women's National Team head coach Luem Khen Koo is calling on the home crowd to rally behind their squad as they play Guam in the 2018 Marianas Cup this Sunday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

"Playing in front of the home crowd will definitely give us a little bit of advantage against Guam," Koo told *Saipan Tribune* last Saturday after watching some of the members of the CNMI U19 pool play in the 2018 NMIFA Fall Youth League.

"We need all the support we could get. I am sure our players' morale and confidence will be high the moment they see a lot of people watching and supporting them," the former Olympian added.

Koo has yet to name the members of the team and those in the pool will continue training this week.

"Our goal this week is to push every body hard, as we

See CNMI on Page 26

Rugby group hires coach

Islander slips past PIC Saipan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Islander Rent A Car took the early lead in the IT&E Emon Masonic Lodge No. 179 Mixed Masters Brotherhood Basketball League after edging Pacific Islands Club Saipan, 75-72, last Saturday at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

Ken Viray came through for Islander in the fourth quarter to hand the team a 2-0 record and the No. 1 spot in the standings in the 10-squad field. PIC fell to a 1-1 mark, as it failed to keep a precarious lead at the end of the third, 54-53, after allowing Viray to burn the hoops in the

See ISLANDER on Page 26

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Islander Rent A Car's Angelo Fernando, left, is forced to dish the ball out as he is challenged by PIC Saipan's Jerome Norita during the second quarter of their game in the IT&E/Emon Lodge caging last Saturday at the Koblerville Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Coach Sam Fesulua'i Robinson watches the CNMI rugby pool members perform passing drills during a training session at the Oleai Sports Complex Field last Friday.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Rugby Union has hired the services of a certified coach from Hawaii to help its team that will be competing in the 2019 Pacific Games in Samoa.

Sam Fesulua'i Robinson arrived on Saipan early last week and has been facilitating the group's training sessions since coming into the island, according to NMRU president Stanley Iakopo.

"We're taking it one step at a time. I am not here to promise quick results or a miracle, but to help them improve gradually. I like the focus that I am seeing from this group and their ability to pick up instructions quickly," Robinson told *Saipan Tribune* last Friday during the pool's practice at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

"We have players who have never played rugby before and some who played, but stopped for a while, so this is a mixed group. Right now, we are focusing on strengthening the basic skills, like passing, running, and footwork before going to the technical side and strategies," said the Hawaii-based Robinson.

The union acquired the services of Robinson through Iakopo, as the two used to be teammates in Hawaii.

"Coach Sam and I are long-time teammates in Hawaii. We are very close friends. He was here in Saipan back in 2001, representing and coaching the Saipan team versus Guam in tournament called True Grit. He went on to pursue professional coaching in the U.S. mainland. In Hawaii, he is coaching men's and youth clubs. He is also running the

See RUGBY on Page 26